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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 1  
January 4, 1923  
(Contents Confidential)

3356  
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*W. A. Sherman*

No Division Letter was issued on Dec. 23

1a. TWO COMMITTEES APPOINTED.

On Dec. 23, Mr. Sherman issued the following memoranda, which are copied verbatim:--

For the purpose of developing research work for this Division, I appoint

Admer D. Miller, Chairman  
H. W. Samson  
F. G. Robb  
E. W. Stillwell

a committee charged with the consideration and development of

- (1) A sales survey of the city markets of the United States, particularly those in the Middle Atlantic States where an intensive survey is desirable.
- (2) A study of the methods pursued by city dealers in financing the production of fruit and vegetable crops in specialized districts.

Mr. O. D. Miller is hereby assigned to this work.

As a committee on publications for this Division, charged particularly with the preparation of Commodity Bulletins, I appoint

Admer D. Miller, Chairman  
George B. Fiske  
Harold J. Clay

I wish this committee to consider and develop the commodity subjects which may be ready for presentation in Commodity Bulletins; to push the preparation of these bulletins, and to handle the details leading to publication which must be attended to in this Division.

Wells A. Sherman,  
Specialist in Charge, F. & V. Div.

2a. SEND WASHINGTON RECEIPTED COPIES OF FORM F&V-1.

All branch offices and field stations are urged to send to Washington promptly the receipted copies of Form F&V-1, upon receipt of articles listed thereon.



3a. SPECIAL ISSUE OF WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS.

This will open your eyes. Read every word of this paragraph:

Weather, Crops and Markets for Dec. 23, 1922, is the largest issue of that paper ever published and perhaps the most important. It contains 48 pages, the last 24 of which include all the statistical data formerly published in the December number of the Monthly Crop Reporter. Every technical employee in the F. & V. Division should have a personal copy of the Dec. 23 issue of Weather, Crops and Markets, which- by the way- was a week late in coming from the Printing Office.

With this Division Letter, a special index to this particular number of Weather, Crops and Markets is being distributed, so that everyone can locate very readily any information on fruits and vegetables. Keep the index attached to your copy of Weather, Crops and Markets. The index covers data on 40 fruits, vegetables and nuts.

It will be observed that the F. & V. Division was given five pages (538 to 542) in this issue of the paper. Field men are to be commended for the large amount of valuable material which they submitted. In addition to the weekly review, there are articles on Colorado, Idaho, Maine and western New York potatoes; western New York cabbage and apples; Colorado cabbage; seed potatoes in Maine and Idaho; and a review of the peanut markets.

4a. USE OF RULED PADS RESTRICTED.

The Bureau has called attention of Divisions to the excessive use of ruled pads or tablets, and has asked that their use be eliminated so far as possible by the substitution of unruled scratch pads which are in stock in considerable quantities, made up from unused forms and obsolete letter-heads.

The Fruit and Vegetable Division is charged with over 300 ruled pads during the past year. Our records show that two-thirds of this number were issued to five branch offices, none being issued to other branch offices. The number used per person in the Washington office is not excessive, but it is evident that in the majority of cases in Washington the unruled scratch pads would have been satisfactory. Possibly such is the case in branch offices also.

It is pointed out that, although the expense in any single instance is not large, the cost in the aggregate is considerable. In compliance, therefore, with the request of the Bureau, all persons in this Division, both in Washington and in branch offices, are asked not to order ruled pads when others will be satisfactory. When ruled pads are desired, state the purpose for which they are needed. Unless definitely indicated, scratch pads made from old forms or letterheads, of the size specified, will be furnished.

5a. REPORT OF THE CHIEF NOW AVAILABLE.

Every technical employee should have, for his or her own information, a copy of the Report of the Chief of the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922. A separate report has been issued for the Office of Farm Management and Farm Economics, because these branches were not united as the Bureau of Agricultural Economics until July 1. The printed reports came from the press in December.

(Continued on next page)



Report for the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates covers briefly the work on grading and standardization; research studies in marketing fruits and vegetables; the Market News Service; the Inspection Service; the enforcement of the Standard Container Act; the work of the Domestic Wool Section, and other lines of service related to fruits and vegetables. The work of all other Divisions and Sections of the Bureau, of course, is included in this report, so that the reader can secure a complete view of the functions and accomplishments of this Bureau in all its aspects.

If you do not have a copy of this annual report (or reports), you can secure a copy from Miss A.P. Rhodes, of the Division of Information, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington.

#### NEWS ITEMS.

As no Division Letter was issued on Dec. 25, the paper for Dec. 21 closed Volume III. That volume should be carefully put aside in a binder or in a filing cabinet for future reference. Each office is expected to preserve permanent files of the Division Letter. In the near future, an index to Volume III will be distributed.

After an enjoyable holiday period, everybody is back on the job in all of the branch offices, as well as in Washington. Every technical employee can be addressed at his usual headquarters. It should be remembered that W.V. Stephens has returned to the New York office, after his period of field service at Caribou, Maine. L.G. Schultz is still at Boise, Idaho, and F.S. Kinsey can still be reached through the Spokane office.

W. H. Hall left Chicago last Sunday for the Imperial Valley, California. He stopped at Los Angeles en route. Within a day or two, it will be known whether he will open the temporary field station on lettuce at El Centro or Brawley. There is a very large acreage of lettuce in Imperial Valley this season, probably exceeding 14,000 acres, and it is expected that 5,000 carloads will be distributed. Practically all of the expenses of this special field station will be defrayed by the growers and distributors.

During Mr. Hall's absence from Chicago, W.J. Bertush will be in temporary charge of the Market News work in that city.

F. M. Lyle, who has been assisting with inspection work in New York City, reported for further duty in Washington today. He will handle the local inspections for an indefinite period.

Four days last week and on Tuesday of this week, S.F. Shreve, of the Baltimore office, handled the inspections in Washington. Mr. Hackleman went to Richmond, Va., on Tuesday, where he made an inspection of onions and one of apples.

Mr. Sherman and Mr. Butner are at Sacramento this week, and probably will go to Los Angeles some time next week. Mr. Butner expects to do considerable work in and around Los Angeles and at other points in southern California during the next few months.

Earl Wilson, who recently took the training course in inspection work at Chicago, returned to Los Angeles the latter part of December and will assist Mr. Butner with shipping-point inspection duties in that territory.

Herbert Graff, of New York, visited the Washington office during the recent holidays.

Dr. G. K. K. Link is now in Washington. He attended the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at Boston the last week of December, and also a meeting of State and Department men interested in seed-potato certification. Dr. Link stopped at the New York office for one day, en route to Washington.



NEWS ITEMS(Continued)

Having returned from his recent field trip last week, C.W. Hauck has gone on another short trip to Philadelphia. He is sitting in at a meeting of the Tri-State Cannery Association, with a view to formulating tentative grades for canning-stock tomatoes. Later in January, Mr. Hauck will start on a southern itinerary, accompanied by Robert Bier. He will assist Mr. Bier with extensive investigational work in Florida. They will study several crops on which Federal grades have not yet been prepared and will study the application of the present grades for truck crops. On this trip, stops may be made at Richmond, Va., Wilmington, N.C., Charleston, S.C., and Savannah, Ga. In Florida, the following points may be visited; Jacksonville, Sanford, Wauchula and Miami.

E.E. Conklin, Jr., is in New York City this week, conferring with representatives of this Division and with members of the trade regarding Federal grades for various products. Special attention is being given to onion grades. On Jan. 3 - 5, Mr. Conklin accompanied the State inspectors on their tour of the potato yards and wholesale market districts. These State men, with whom he worked at Avoca, N.Y., are on an educational trip in the metropolitan market.

Cabbage market reports are being continued at Rochester, N.Y., until the end of January, because of the wide interest in this report and because so much of the winter cabbage is still in the hands of growers in that territory. The necessary market information is being sent to Mr. Brown by radiograph from the Arlington station.

Potato market reports issued at the Presque Isle, Me., field station were placed on a thrice-weekly basis about the middle of December.

Arrangements have been made for spinach market reports at Austin, Texas. This work is being conducted by J. A. Hunter, representing the Texas State Dept. of Agriculture, the Markets and Warehouse Dept., and the Agricultural College. Further details are given in the Market News section of this Division Letter.

Leaving Washington the end of this week, A.D. Miller will go to Springfield, Ill., to assist in the trial of an excess wool profits case against F.M. McGowan Co., wool dealers in that city. J. S. Bohannon, Assistant to the Solicitor of the Department, also will go to Springfield for this purpose, and may later visit Detroit and Chicago to confer with U. S. Attorneys regarding pending wool cases. This is the first wool case to be reached for trial on the facts. The demurrer in this case was recently overruled by the Court.

In Weather, Crops and Markets for Dec. 30, which is expected from the Printing Office today, there will be an extended discussion of the seed-potato situation in western Nebraska, an article on the Chicago potato market (sacked vs. bulk stock), and a report of November inspections. In making up the paper, the editor of Weather, Crops and Markets found it necessary to drop a few lines from the end of the inspection article. Those lines, covering the Navy work on the Pacific Coast, will appear in the paper of Jan. 6. The page forms for issue of Jan. 6 have not yet been completed, so that it is impossible at this time to state what articles will be printed in this week's paper. All recent issues have been delayed because of the extra-large paper (48 pages), published under date of Dec. 23.

At the opening of the New Year, the editor of the Division Letter wishes to remind all branch offices and field stations to submit News Items and other timely information as frequently as possible. Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.



January 4, 1923.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTS

Market News Service on Fruits and Vegetables.

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close.
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	V. D. Callanan	Apples	Sept. 26	Mar. 1
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	J. D. Snow	Potatoes	Sept. 13	Mar. 1
ROCHESTER, N.Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage	Sept. 11 Sept. 13 Sept. 23 Oct. 2	Oct. 11* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 27
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	C. E. Schultz	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS. Chamber of Commerce	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 221 Ashton Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples*	Oct. 17 Oct. 17	May. 1 Nov. 11*
GREELEY, COLO. 214 Post Office Bldg.	835	G. E. Prince	Potatoes	Dec. 4	Apr. 15

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

EL CENTRO, CALIF.**	935	W. H. Hall	Lettuce	Jan. 8	Mar. 24
SANFORD, FLA.	910	Unassigned	Celery	Jan. 22	Mar. 31

\* Report discontinued.

\*\* May be Brawley.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE
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1b. MARKET REPORTS ON SPINACH AND LETTUCE.

Starting on Jan. 2, the Washington office and Austin, Texas, began issuing regular reports on spinach. This work at Austin is being handled by J. A. Hunter, of the State staff. His daily reports will contain shipments, f.o.b. information, and a number of markets. Railroad reports showing the destination of Texas spinach shipments are being received by our Fort Worth office, and are forwarded by Mr. Googe to Mr. Hunter. Austin will send over the leased wire a daily f.o.b. report, which can be used by any offices desiring to publish that information, as "unofficial."

As soon as the Imperial Valley field station begins operation, Mr. Hall will dispatch a daily f.o.b. report on lettuce, which will be available to all offices on the leased wire. The Washington office also will begin to issue regular bulletins on lettuce, coincident with this service in southern California.

Estimates of the Imperial Valley lettuce acreage by towns are as follows: Brawley 3,839 acres; Grape 52; Imperial 1,450; El Centro 1,653; Heber 2,197; Calipatria 537; Rockwood 250; Westmoreland 310; Shamrock 500; Holtville 1,130; Seeley 375; Calexico 1,829 acres. These figures are unofficial and are not for publication.

2b. SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS DUE FROM MARKET STATIONS.

The usual semi-annual reports of market station activities were due on Jan. 2 and should be submitted as soon as possible. These reports are to cover the work of the last six months of 1922.

3b. CLASSIFICATION OF SERVICES OVER LEASED WIRE DURING DECEMBER.

During December, 82 questions relating to market reports were settled over the leased wire, exclusive of 25 voluntary corrections which were sent. This is a gratifying decrease from the 130 questions serviced during November. All classes of services have been cut down. The decreases from 54 to 32 in the column headed "Errors by Markets," and from 18 to 12 in "Telegraphic Errors," are especially commendable.

Name of Market Served	Total number of services to Markets	Errors by Markets	Insufficient Information by Markets	Telegraphic Errors	Unclassified Services to Mkts	Voluntary Corrections
Baltimore	4	1	1	1	1	
Boston	5	4			1	1
Chicago	17	5	3	2	7	3
Cincinnati	11	4	1		6	2
Kansas City #	10	4	2		4	2
Minneapolis*	4	3			1	2
New York	9	4	1	1	3	4
Philadelphia	6	5	1			5
Pittsburgh	8	2	2	3	1	
St. Louis	8		1	5	2	6
TOTAL	32	32	12	12	26	25

# including Fort Worth, coded by Kansas City. \* including St. Paul.



4b. COMMENT ON USE OF "MIMECON" LINE.

The following paragraph is quoted from a letter from E. P. Lemott, Head Clerk of the Chicago joint branch office, concerning a test of the new "Mimecon" mimeograph ink for market news reports in the Chicago Office:

"We have given this ink a very thorough test and we are able to secure 22,000 copies from one pound, using the 8 x 15 inch paper. This ink dries more quickly and flows more freely than the No. 767. The machine also requires less inking. After the pads were used two weeks they were in practically as good condition as the first day they were used. There is a tendency to re-ink the pads more often than necessary, when there may be sufficient ink already on the pad but not visible in the drum."

Later, in response to an inquiry from the Branch of Operation in Washington, Mr. Lemott added this statement:

"The matter was single-spaced and the entire 8 x 15 sheet was filled, the Gothic type being used on one side and Elite on the other. \* \* \* We were able to obtain the same number of copies from this ink as from No. 767, with practically the same results, at one half the cost."

Sample cans of Mimecon ink, to be tried out, have not yet been forwarded to our temporary and permanent field offices. They will be furnished as soon as received from the contractor in Washington. This brand of ink, as well as the No. 767, is on Government Schedule this year.

### 5b. COLORADO SEED POTATO SITUATION.

Under date of Dec. 19, Mr. Prince, of the Greeley office, sent the following information on seed potatoes in Colorado:

"According to the dealers in Greeley, there will not be a great deal of seed business this year, excepting that of a local nature.

There are quite a few Bliss Triumphs grown in this district, but as this stock is mostly early it is used as table stock. There will probably be some of this stock sold as seed, if conditions warrant. One of the firms in Greeley anticipates handling approximately 100 cars of Nebraska Bliss Triumphs. This Nebraska stuff is shipped in, stored, and then sold for seed. This firm states that the demand for seed is very limited at the present time.

"There is practically no seed trade in the San Luis Valley, and, as the percentage of seed or small stock was rather large this season, it is evident that there will be very little local demand. An occasional car of Russet-Burbanks from this district is sold as seed, this stock usually moving to some point within the State.

"Conditions on the Western Slope in regard to the seed business are practically the same as those in the San Luis Valley."

6b. WAYNE COUNTY, N.Y. CELERY STORAGE REPORT FOR DECEMBER 22, 1922.

On Dec. 26, C. L. Brown sent the following report of Wayne County celery  
TOTAL left in Storage Dec. 22, ..... 48,596 crates  
(Report of 10 Storages; 1 New Storage this year.)

- S H I P M E N T S -

Shipped Week of Dec. 15-21, 1922 .....	33,176 crates (2/3 crates)
" " " " " " , 1921 .....	27,470 "

Shipped Week of Dec. 8-14, 1922	.....	30,094 crates
" " " " " ", 1921	.....	33,183 "



7b. PUBLICITY IN IDAHO FALLS DISTRICT.

In a letter of Dec. 27, C. E. Schultz, in charge of the Idaho Falls office, writes further concerning the distribution of reports through news-papers:-

"This office is at present furnishing the short form of market reports to the Idaho Falls Post and the Times-Register. These are the only papers issued in Idaho Falls. The Post is published daily and the Times-Register twice weekly, on Tuesdays and Fridays. Both papers and particularly the Post are very enthusiastic concerning the service we are giving them. The circulation of the Post is around 3800 daily and it reaches a large proportion of people vitally interested in potatoes. They consider this market information one of the most important features of their paper and state that numerous requests are received, almost daily, for the material we are giving them."

When the potato reports at Idaho Falls are reduced to a thrice-weekly basis, arrangements will be made in Washington to furnish Mr. Schultz a brief report of the markets and shipments on those days on which he does not issue a bulletin, so that he may continue to furnish information regularly to these newspapers.

8b. LOS ANGELES POTATO MARKET.

In a recent letter written to C. E. Schultz, at Idaho Falls, by H. A. Harris, in charge of the Los Angeles office, the following interesting information was given:

"The market is very dull and I have to interview practically every receiver to be sure of conditions. If trading were normal, I could determine the market after talking with six or eight receivers."

"I suppose that the growers and shippers are discouraged over the condition of the markets in general and Los Angeles in particular. The jobbers here have adopted a very pessimistic attitude and will not buy more than their immediate requirements. If the track holdings approach 100 cars, they usually quit buying in the hope of breaking the local market and buying for less money, and unless the jobbers and other receivers are able to divert or stop cars in transit they usually succeed in breaking the market. Then they will buy two or three cars each and, while the tracks clean up, there is no demand until this stock is cleaned up."

"The quality of the Stockton Burbanks is about like last year, with only a small percentage that will grade Fancy. The Stockton growers and shippers have steadfastly refused to use the United States grades and at last are paying the penalty. While normally their Fancy is considered a little better than U. S. grade 1 and their Choice a little below U. S. grade 1 but better than U. S. No. 2, the quality of the potatoes grown on the delta has deteriorated under constant cropping during the past few years so that the terms Fancy and Choice mean little. Some shippers will put out a poorer Fancy than another shipper's Choice. Others will ship Fancy brands on some lots of potatoes that would grade U. S. Fancy, and other lots would hardly make U. S. Grade 2. So it is a mixed-up mess and each car sells on its merits. While there is a strong consumer prejudice in favor of the Burbanks, I find that the Idaho Russett, U. S. Grade 1, is winning favor on its quality and uniformity of grade and, where Russetts formerly sold in prices between Stockton Fancy and Choice, they now sell right along with Fancy Burbanks."

(Continued)



January 4, 1923

"The tracks are cleaned up at present, but there is no demand to speak of (on account of the holiday season) and there does not seem to be much of a chance for improvement. One thing that has hurt the market is the number of cars shipped here by growers who came along to sell them direct or turned them over to relatives living here to sell. In the majority of cases the grower or his representative has been unable to sell to the jobbers readily as they are disposed to give a newcomer more sales-resistance than the regular carlot receivers. Consequently, the grower loses courage and sells at a discount to get the car off his hands and get back home and, of course, hurts the market to that extent.

"In short, the potato market here this season is a buyer's market. Supplies are continually slightly in excess of the demand, so that the buyer is able to be very critical as to quality and arbitrary as to the price he will pay. There has been very little stock placed in storage, because the unfortunate experiences of last year taught the shipper it was better to take a loss rather than incur storage charges and finally have to sell on a poor market. Most of the potatoes that are in cold storage are local potatoes being held for seed. The local growers suffered heavy losses last summer, as they were shipping about the time the Caldwell deal opened.

The second crop is nearly all dug but the growers have no place to put it. The local market doesn't want round whites and Texas, their usual market, is full of Colorado and Idaho stock shipped there under a lower freight rate. So the Idaho grower is not the only one who is in trouble, for most of the local potatoes are grown on \$500 and \$800-an-acre land, with a lower yield than in Idaho and with higher labor costs."

E. W. Stillwell,  
Specialist in Market News  
(Fruits and Vegetables)



January 4, 1925.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK DEC. 18-22, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Completed	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted, Delivered
<b>EASTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Philadelphia - Misc.	1:01	1:28	27	15	4610	355
New York - Misc. R	12:24	12:54	30	10	4720	552
Washington - Misc.	1:25	2:00	35	10	3125	---
Boston - Misc. M	1:35	2:22	40	12	4247	300
<b>WESTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
St. Louis - Misc. Q	12:49	1:15	26	14	3500	400
Cincinnati - Misc. Q	2:18	2:47	29	10	4222	650
Kansas City - Misc. Q Honey	12:00	12:31	31	10	6426	---
Minneapolis - Misc.	12:02	12:30	34	10	6993	110
Pittsburgh - Misc.	12:05	12:39	36	10	3080	49
Chicago - Misc.	12:52	1:50	58	12	4750	3260
Washington - (Nat'l) BLMOR P: nuts. Shipment Information				51	27310	1934
TOTAL	12:51#	1:26#	35#	164	72983	7610
" previous week	12:52#	1:32#	40#	171	84311	5791
<b>WESTERN OFFICE (Dec. 11-16)</b>						
Los Angeles - Misc.; Ship.	3:07	3:57	50	12	11600	--
" " previous week	3:31	4:12	41	18	11600	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				10,158	4,988,802	428,221

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK DEC. 18-22, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Grand Rapids - R	11:53	1:13	6549	1303	--	--
Greeley - R	12:02	12:52	6875	1373	2	--
Idaho Falls - R	1:20	1:45	2970	594	--	74
Presque Isle - R	1:25	2:10	3702	1225	--	49
Rochester - BFR	2:15	3:02	7110	759	--	--
Spokane - B	2:20	4:11	8548	2038	--	--
Waupaca - R	11:46	2:26	7995	1599	--	--
TOTAL	1:09#	2:14#	43749			
" previous week	12:59#	2:38#	74473			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			1312357			

# Average time.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 6,729,580.



January 4, 1923.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK DEC. 26-30, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Completed	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted, Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Philadelphia - Misc.	1:05	1:26	21	10	3,775	305
New York - Misc. R	12:45	1:11	26	11	3,723	501
Washington - Misc.	1:30	2:00	30	8	2,500	--
Boston - Misc. M	3:00	4:04	64	11	3,301	300
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
St. Louis - Misc. Q	12:00	12:21	21	10	2,950	275
Cincinnati - Misc. Q	2:20	2:48	28	8	3,402	650
Minneapolis - Misc.	12:04	12:38	34	10	7,010	110
Pittsburgh - Misc.	12:02	12:45	43	8	2,470	49
Kansas City - Misc. Q	12:01	12:48	47	8	3,800	115
Chicago - Misc.	12:52	2:22	90	9	3,800	1,045
Washington - (NAT'L) BFMOR P'mts. Ship. Information				49	27,315	1,536
TOTAL	12:58#	1:38#	40#	142	64,046	5,286
" previous week	12:51#	1:26#	35#	164	72,983	7,610
<u>WESTERN OFFICE (Dec. 13-22)</u>						
Los Angeles - Misc; Ship.	3:31	4:35	64	15	10,500	--
" " previous week	3:07	3:57	50	18	11,600	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				10,315	5,063,348	433,507

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK DEC. 26-30, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Grand Rapids - R	12:08	1:28	6,507	1,306	--	--
Greeley - R	12:05	12:45	6,924	1,383	1	--
Idaho Falls - R	1:02	1:30	3,645	729	23	--
Presque Isle - R	2:30	3:30	4,029	1,552	9	--
Rochester - BFR	3:11	3:58	5,195	771	--	--
Spokane - B	2:13	3:50	6,252	2,084	--	1
Waupaca - R	11:52	2:22	6,396	1,599	--	--
TOTAL	1:17#	2:29#	39,009			
" previous week	1:09#	2:14#	43,749			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			1,351,366			

# Average Time.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 6,843,221.



FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE1c. SECURING INFORMATION ON WASHINGTON STATE INSPECTIONS.

F. E. Bailey, who is assisting Mr. Kinsey in supervision of shipping-point inspection work in the State of Washington, has explained why it is impossible in many cases for prompt information to be furnished as to whether or not given cars of apples have been inspected at shipping-point.

Inspection work in that State is under the direct supervision of 10 District Horticultural Inspectors, who are listed below, and these Inspectors have copies of all certificates issued within their respective districts:-

DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL INSPECTORS.

<u>Dist.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Counties</u>
1.	John B. Wiley	Walla Walla.	Columbia, Walla Walla, Garfield, Asotin.
2.	E. B. Kelley	Spokane, 214 Columbia Bldg.	Spokane, Stevens, Whitman, Pend Oreille, Lincoln, Ferry.
3.	F. E. Bailey	Court House, Spokane	Benton, Franklin, Adams.
4.	P. S. Darlington	Wenatchee	Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan, Grant.
5.	W. L. Close	Yakima	Yakima, Kittitas.
6.	R. B. Phipps	Vancouver.	Clarke, Skamania, Cowlitz, Klickitat, Wahkiakum.
7.	Tréo Albert	Chehalis	Thurston, Mason, Lewis, Grays Harbor, Pacific.
8.	Henry Huff	Sumner.	Pierce, Kitsap, Clallam, Jefferson.
9.	F. W. Rhodes	Seattle, 417 County-City Bldg.	King.
10.	Carl O. Weiss	Everett, 312 Commerce Bldg.	Island, San Juan, Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish.

A complete file also is kept in the office of the Supervisor of Horticulture, C. L. Robinson, at Olympia, Washington. Messrs. Kinsey and Bailey do not keep a file of the certificates issued within the State. It is therefore suggested that, whenever necessary to wire to shipping-point to determine whether or not a certain car has been inspected there, the inquiry be addressed to the District Inspector if the district is known. If the district is not known, the wire should be sent to Mr. Robinson at Olympia.

It should be remembered that a number of lots of apples are inspected in storage in Washington and the shipping-point certificates bear no reference to any car number, the only identifying information being the lot numbers, the variety and brand. On this account it is entirely possible, that State certificates may be issued on apples which neither the State officials nor the Washington office can identify, if only the car number and initials are furnished by Inspectors in the terminal markets.

Because many of our apple inspections from now on will be made in cold storage warehouses or in other places where it is impossible to look for marks on the car to indicate a previous inspection, it will be impossible to determine in all cases before making an inspection whether or not the lot has been previously inspected. All that is possible for us to do is to make reasonably diligent inquiry from receiver, storage officials, etc., as to whether or not there is any record of previous inspection and be guided by this information. It will subject the Inspector to criticism, if he refuses to examine a car merely because there is a possibility that it was inspected at shipping-point.



January 4, 1923.

2c. HANDLING EXPENSES OF REINSPECTIONS IN OUTSIDE MARKETS.

Cases may occur in which inspections are requested in outside markets on cars previously inspected at shipping-point, upon which a reinspection is not desired or cannot be made because all regulations have not been complied with. In such cases the applicant should be charged with the traveling expenses of the Inspector, even if the car is not inspected.

When the applications are received by telephone, inquiry should be made as to whether or not cars have been previously inspected and the rules governing reinspections should be explained, as this may save money for the applicant and time for the Inspector.

If the car is reinspected for grade or inspected for condition only, the expenses should be charged to the applicant together with the proper fee for inspection. In case the original inspection report is reversed and no fee is charged, the traveling expenses should still be charged to the applicant.

3c. MORE CARE IN MAKING UP WEEKLY LETTERS OF TRANSMITTAL.

Complaints received almost daily from the Disbursing Office indicate that there is still considerable room for improvement in making up the weekly letters of transmittal. While most offices have improved the form of their letters of transmittal, there are still some received with either date or market missing and some not signed by the man in charge with pen and ink. Blue fee-slips sometimes do not have the office address at the bottom.

We have also received several letters with fee-bills attached, which did not have the check numbers marked on the fee-bills. These numbers had to be inserted in this office from the letter of transmittal. It is desired that they be filled in from the checks, because of possibility of error in copying numbers on letters of transmittal.

The Disbursing Clerk has also called our attention to the fact that several checks have been received not properly made out or endorsed, and this causes delay in the transmitting of a large number of checks to the Treasury until these incorrect checks are returned.

The chief error which is being made is in listing amounts incorrectly, which results in incorrect totals. Several such instances have occurred recently and in each case the office concerned was notified by the Washington office of the changes necessary to correct such letters. The error was discovered by the fact that the check did not agree with the amount listed on the letter of transmittal. It would seem that this ought to be as apparent to the person preparing the letter of transmittal as it is to the clerk in the Disbursing Office who checks it.

Memorandum No. 55 states that "Columns must be totaled and totals must agree with checks and fee slips." When each column is totaled and the total of fee-slips and checks is found separately, if the four totals do not agree any discrepancy in entering amounts would be caught before the papers leave the field office. Greater care should be used in this connection, as these errors cause considerable unnecessary telephoning to this office (to verify the amounts of the checks by the fee-slips) and resultant changes of totals on all copies here and in the field office.

4c. PARAGRAPH 287 FOR INSPECTORS' HANDBOOK.

With this Division Letter, copies of Paragraph 287 (Exception to IIB 253 and 523) are being sent to all employees having a copy of the Inspectors' Handbook. If anyone has been overlooked, please request a copy of this amendment at once.



January 4, 1925.

5c. RELATION OF DECAY AND FREEZING INJURY.

Attention has been called to a case of decay following freezing injury not covered by Paragraph 287 for Inspectors' Handbook, which is enclosed with this Division Letter:-

4% Soft Rot following Freezing Injury and 2% other defects illustrates a case in which the term "aside from" should be used. The potatoes were within grade when sacked including freezing injury. They are below grade at destination because of 2% more Soft Rot than the grade allows. "Aside from" should be used in all cases when the lot was apparently up to grade at shipping-point and is not at destination; it should not be used when decay apparently follows defects that were present at grading time in such quantity that the lot was below grade.

6c. BEGIN USING NEW CERTIFICATE FORMS JANUARY 15.

On account of an error in the Printing Office, the new certificate forms were not delivered on December 15 as requested. We have the promise of the Printing Office that they will be delivered January 6 and they should be received in all branch offices by January 13. We will begin use of the new forms on January 15. Until that date all offices should continue to use the forms now on hand.

F. G. Robb,  
Specialist in Inspection.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 2  
January 11, 1923  
(Contents Confidential)

1a. ADDITIONAL FAVORABLE COURT DECISIONS IN WOOL CASES.

On Monday, Jan. 8, Judge Morton, of the United States District Court at Boston, filed an opinion overruling the demurrer in the excess wool profits case of the United States vs. R. E. Smith. This opinion, by agreement of counsel, will also apply to three other pending excess profits cases in Boston. As a number of dealers in different cities have been awaiting this decision to govern their action on our demands on them for the payment of excess wool profits, the effect of the opinion of Judge Morton becomes more far-reaching than those heretofore rendered. This makes the fifth opinion in favor of the Government in these cases, with no adverse decision.

The first case to come to trial on the facts, with thorough consideration of all details on disputed items of the audit, was decided on Wednesday, Jan. 10, when judgment was given against F. M. McGowan Co., wool dealers at Springfield, Ill.

As a result of a reaudit of the 1918 wool business of Isaac Rosenbaum & Sons at Louisville, Ky., members of which firm are now under indictment for conspiracy to defraud the Government, the excess profits of these dealers were increased from \$12,730.97 to \$55,091.30. The latter amount, with interest, has all been collected from this firm, making the total payment \$59,871.96.

2a. SEMI-ANNUAL EFFICIENCY REPORTS DUE.

(Reply)

Efficiency rating forms for reporting the efficiency of clerical and sub-clerical employees during the period May 15 to Nov. 15, 1922, have been forwarded to each branch office with detailed instructions concerning their preparation. As it is required that all the efficiency reports be arranged and returned to the Bureau personnel office not later than January 23, it will be necessary that every office give this matter immediate attention. The best way to avoid overlooking it is to prepare the reports at once and put them in the mail.

3a. NEW PROCEDURE IN ORDERING SUPPLIES FOR BRANCH OFFICES, EFFECTIVE JAN. 15.

Attention is called to item 15 in this week's issue of The B.A.E. News. It will be noted that Form BM-38 will no longer be used, but that all requisitions for supplies are to be prepared on Forms AE-82a, 33b and 33c. Only such articles as are included in the Bureau stock list are to be ordered on a single requisition, whereas any other articles, whether for inventorial equipment, repair parts or unusual supplies, should be ordered on a separate requisition. A supply of the new Form 88 is being sent to each branch office.



January 11, 1923.

NEWS ITEMS:

This week and next is the time for a number of big conventions. The annual meeting of the National League of Commission Merchants is being held in Cincinnati, Jan. 9 - 12. The Western Fruit Jobbers' Association will meet in annual convention at Chicago, Jan. 15 - 17, and the American Fruit and Vegetable Shippers Association will convene in Chicago about the same time, Jan. 17 - 19. The Fruit and Vegetable Brokers' Association also will be in session Jan. 16 and 17.

Mr. Robb left Washington last Monday to attend the conventions in Cincinnati and Chicago. On Saturday he expects to visit the Cleveland office of the Inspection Service. At the A. F. & V. S. Association meeting in Chicago he is scheduled to deliver a short address on the Food Products Inspection work.

Mr. Stillwell will leave Washington next Tuesday for Chicago, where he also will attend the conventions of the fruit and vegetable trade. He may visit the offices at Waupaca and Cincinnati before returning to Washington.

The New Jersey Potato Growers' Association will meet at Trenton next week. Mr. Samson expects to attend the session on Jan. 18. He will discuss the movement of misbranded potatoes in interstate shipment, emphasizing the importance of careful grading and the necessity for accurate branding or designation of the grade on sacks.

The address of C. W. Hauck this week is White House Hotel, Gainesville, Fla. He started on his southern trip a few days ago and will be in Florida and other southeastern States for the next month or more, furthering the use of recommended grades for various truck crops. Mr. Bier will not join Mr. Hauck in Florida until about Feb. 1.

As will be noticed on the list of field stations, J.D. Evers will be in charge of the office at Sanford, Fla. Mr. Evers was appointed to the Market News staff in May, 1922, and has rendered very good service as assistant to Mr. Biddle in Philadelphia. He expects to come to Washington next Monday and spend a day or two in the local office before going South.

L. H. Martin, of the Washington staff, has been confined to his home in Virginia for the past week, suffering from a severe cold. O. D. Miller also is absent on account of illness but hopes to return to duty within a day or two.

About a year ago, W. Gary Thompson was furloughed from the Inspection staff to undergo treatment at the Veterans' Bureau Hospital at Oteen, N.C. This furlough expires on Feb. 3 and Mr. Thompson will be obliged to submit a resignation by that date, subject to later re-instatement to the Service. He reports that his health is greatly improved but that he must remain at Oteen for some months. We hope for his early and complete recovery.

On his southern tour in the interest of the Standard Container Act and its enforcement, H. A. Spilman is now at Jacksonville, Texas. He will be at Austin on Friday and at New Orleans Jan. 14 and 15.

Word from Mr. Sherman indicates that all communications can be addressed to him in care of our Los Angeles office until further notice.

Leaving New York City, E. E. Conklin, Jr., was in Boston the early part of this week. Tomorrow he will go to South Deerfield, Mass., in connection with the onion-grading which is being done at that shipping point. On Jan. 13 he will be at Albany, N.Y., conferring with State officials. On the 15th he expects to be at Canastota, N.Y., and on the 16th at Rochester.

H. C. Miller, who had been assisting with inspection work in Philadelphia, was assigned temporarily to the New York office about the middle of December. He was on leave the last week of December and probably will return to Philadelphia in the near future.

In order to confer with Mr. Stanton, E. R. Biddle, of the Philadelphia Market News office, is spending today and Friday in New York City.



TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTS

Market News Service on Fruits and Vegetables.

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	V. D. Callanan	Apples	Sept. 26	Mar. 1
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	J. D. Snow	Potatoes	Sept. 13	Mar. 1
ROCHESTER, N.Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage	Sept. 11 Sept. 13 Sept. 23 Oct. 2	Oct. 11* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 27
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	C. E. Schultz	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS. Chamber of Commerce	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 221 Ashton Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples*	Oct. 17 Oct. 17	May 1 Nov. 11*
GREELEY, COLO. 214 Post Office Bldg.	885	G. E. Prince	Potatoes	Dec. 4	Apr. 15
EL CENTRO, CALIF.	933	W. H. Hall	Lettuce	Jan. 9	Mar. 24

The following station probably will open on date indicated:

SANFORD, FLA.	910	J. D. Evers	Celery	Jan. 22	Mar. 31
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\* Report discontinued.



MARKET NEWS SERVICE11. OBsolete Lists of Market Stations to be Destroyed.

Please locate in your office all old Market Station Address Lists and use only the revised list which is being distributed with this Division Letter. The new list is dated Jan. 10. Additional copies can be secured on request. Advise Washington of any errors or omissions in the revised sheet.

2b. MICHIGAN SEED POTATO SITUATION.

R. S. Shoemaker, in charge of the field station at Grand Rapids, recently submitted the following report on Michigan seed potatoes:

There has been an increase of over 200% in the production of seed potatoes in Michigan this season. According to officials of the Michigan State Farm Bureau, through which most of the seed crop is handled, there will be about 300,000 bus. of certified seed, compared with 93,000 bus. in 1921.

Practically all certified seed in Michigan is of the Russet Rural variety. In years past, there was an appreciable number of cars of other seed, such as Early Rose, Hebron, Triumph, Early Ohio, and Green Mountain, grown in the State. At present, however, very few varieties other than the Petoskey or Russet Rural are grown. A small number of cars of Irish Cobbler, Early Ohio and Green Mountain seed stock will be shipped from Michigan this season.

Last season the bulk of Michigan's certified seed crop was shipped to western Pennsylvania, considerable amount to Ohio, and a number of cars to points in New York and Indiana. A few cars went as far as western Nebraska. Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana are the States which generally use the bulk of the surplus Michigan seed, and probably will do so this season. It has been estimated that Pennsylvania will take 150,000 bus. of this year's (1922) crop, while Michigan itself may use 100,000 bus., thus leaving only 50,000 bus. for other States. It is expected that this limited remainder will be disposed of without difficulty.

Probably not more than 50 cars of Michigan seed potatoes had been shipped to Dec. 20. Most of the crop is usually shipped during January, February, March and the early part of April. Many growers who purchase seed do not care to receive their orders until they are about ready to plant.

Early shipments this season were sold on a basis of 70-75¢ per bu. f.o.b. shipping point, while shipments for December delivery were quoted at 85¢. Prices for delivery after Jan. 1 were somewhat higher than these figures. Some contracts were made early in the fall for spring delivery at \$1 per bu., with present quotations around \$1.15-\$1.25 f.o.b. loading station. "Spring delivery" means "for shipment between January 1 and April 1."

Prices this season have been much lower than last season, when certified seed in Michigan sold early in the fall at \$1.25 per bu. and spring shipments were sold at \$2. The principal reason for this slump in seed-stock prices is one of sympathy with the low price of table stock.



January 11, 1923.

3b. "F.O.B. USUAL TERMS" QUOTATIONS.

Since issuing instructions regarding the above subject in Division Letter of Dec. 21 (Par. 5b.), additional information has been received from most of our field men. It is apparent that it will not be possible for all men to follow instructions accurately. It is equally apparent that the system prevailing at the time these instructions were issued is not satisfactory. Briefly, the methods prevailing in each section were as follows:

Greeley, Colo.: Practically no sales on a delivered basis. When delivered price quoted, freight charges only deducted.

Rochester, N.Y.: Delivered sales reduced to "f.o.b." basis by deducting freight charges only and quoting to nearest prices ending in five or zero.

Grand Rapids, Mich.: Delivered sales reduced to "f.o.b." basis by deducting freight charges only. Option Two not available.

Waupaca, Wis.: Option Two charges deducted, if shipment under this option. Many shippers do not use Option Two, in which case freight charges only deducted from delivered sales.

Presque Isle, Me.: Freight charges only deducted from delivered sales.

Idaho Falls, Ida.: Practically no delivered sales. "F.o.b. Usual Terms" sales quoted are actually made that basis.

Mr. Stillwell expects to discuss this matter with a number of shippers while attending the American Fruit and Vegetable Shippers Association convention in Chicago next week. It is hoped that a mutually satisfactory method of handling delivered sales may be determined. Further instructions or information will follow later.

4b. REPORT CREDITS DESIRED ON POOR MIMEOGRAPH PAPER.

(Reply)

Any Office which has laid aside unsatisfactory mimeograph paper from the shipments recently received from the Mathers-Lam Paper Co., should advise Washington at once of the quantity which may be returned to the factory and the condition for which it is rejected. Final settlement with this dealer must be made soon by the Bureau. If we desire to return any paper and receive credit for that which cannot be used, we must do so at once. This paper cannot be rejected on the ground of quality unless there is a variation of quality within the reams. However, variation in width or length of the paper within the same ream, a size different from 8 x 15 inches, variations in weight of the paper, or wrinkled, torn or frayed sheets are sufficient causes for rejection. Please reply promptly.

E. W. Stillwell,  
Specialist in Market News  
(Fruits and Vegetables)



January 11, 1923.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK JAN. 2-6, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Completed	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted, Delivered
<b>EASTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Philadelphia - Misc.	12:59	1:24	25	10	3784	305
Boston - Misc. M	1:46	2:16	30	9	3311	300
New York - Misc. R	12:48	1:20	32	9	3348	542
Washington - Misc.	12:49	1:35	46	8	2512	--
<b>WESTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
St. Louis - Misc. Q	12:02	12:21	19	13	2950	525
Minneapolis - Misc.	12:06	12:33	27	10	7025	110
Cincinnati - Misc. Q	2:08	2:38	30	8	3401	650
Pittsburgh - Misc.	12:06	12:36	30	8	2472	49
Kansas City - Misc. Q Money	12:07	12:44	37	8	5416	--
Chicago - Misc.	12:39	1:18	39	9	3880	1045
Washington - (Nat'l) BFMOR 6 Plnuts, Honey, Ship. Infr.				59	34524	1934
TOTAL	12:45#	1:17#	32#	151	72623	5460
" previous week	12:58#	1:38#	40#	142	64046	5286
<b>WESTERN OFFICE (Dec. 26-30)</b>						
Los Angeles - Misc. LR#3	3:16	4:06	50	15	10480	--
" " previous week	3:31	4:35	54	15	10500	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				166	33103	5460

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK JAN. 2-6 INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Grand Rapids - R	11:51	1:21	6580	1309	--	--
Greeley - R	12:03	12:52	7001	1393	1	--
Idaho Falls - R	1:47	2:27	2310	770	6	--
Presque Isle - R	2:28	3:10	2770	1378	3	--
Rochester - BFR	2:20	2:59	6385	773	--	--
Spokane - B	12:42	1:35	6256	2085	--	--
Waukegan - R	11:49	2:24	6956	1599	--	--
TOTAL	1:00#	2:07#	38258			
" previous week	1:17#	2:29#	39009			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			38258			

# Average time.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 126,821.



January 11, 1925.

FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE1c. IMPORTANT DIRECTIONS FOR USE OF NEW CERTIFICATE FORMS.

A supply of new certificate forms has been mailed to all offices and should be used beginning Jan. 15. The Originals are all numbered consecutively and a record is kept in Washington of the numbers sent to each branch office. It will be necessary to exercise care in the use of these certificates, because each office is charged with those sent to it and all certificates must be accounted for. If for any reason any certificate is spoiled or is not issued, it should be marked VOID and sent in to "Audits and Accounts, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington, D.C.," with copies of all certificates issued. The copy of each certificate which has formerly been sent to the Washington office of the Food Products Inspection Service for permanent file should, beginning with those issued on January 15, be sent to "Audits and Accounts," as stated above.

The Copy forms are not numbered, but numbers corresponding with the Original should be typed in when the certificate is typewritten. The fee and expenses, if any are incurred, should be shown on the Original and on all Copies EXCEPT THE SHIPPER'S COPY. Probably the best way to accomplish this will be to cut off the corner of the carbon sheet over this part of the shipper's copy of the certificate.

It is necessary to make another change in the method of sending in the checks, fee bills and certificates: These should be made out in the same manner as at present but the original and one copy of the letter of transmittal, together with the checks, should be sent to "Disbursing Clerk, U.S. Department of Agriculture," and not to "Disbursing Clerk, Bureau of Agricultural Economics," as has occurred in a few instances. The third copy of the letter of transmittal, together with the blue fee bills, should be mailed to "Audits and Accounts, Bureau of Agricultural Economics." The fourth copy of the letter of transmittal should be held in the branch office as at present, until the receipted copy is returned from Washington.

The foregoing directions apply only to certificates and fees on inspections made on and after January 15. Fee bills on inspections prior to that date should be sent to Mr. Robb, together with the letter of transmittal, in exactly the same way as has been done since Nov. 5, 1922. This will require two letters of transmittal when there are fees received for inspections made prior to Jan. 15, and also after that date.

2c. CORRECTION OF METHOD OF HANDLING EXPENSES OF INSPECTIONS.

An error occurred in instructions given in the last sentence of Par. 2c, in last week's Division Letter. The statement should read that, when the original inspection report is reversed, neither fee nor travel expenses should be charged to the applicant, provided the request was for a reinspection instead of merely for an inspection. This agrees with the directions given in the latter part of Paragraph 279, IHB, which was recently mailed to all persons having copies of the Handbook.



January 11, 1923.

3c. NEW INSPECTION CERTIFICATES SHIPPED ON JAN. 8.

On Jan. 8 a supply of Form IPT-1 certificates, numbered serially, together with Copies, was forwarded to every Inspection office.

The shipping of these certificates was handled in the Bureau Supply Section under instructions from Mr. Robb's office. This is in accordance with the new plan of having all supplies, including blank forms, forwarded by the Bureau rather than from the Fruit and Vegetable Division stock room.

The Bureau Supply Section endeavored to exercise unusual care in wrapping the certificates with corrugated board and heavy paper and in preparing Form 88 covering the shipments to the various offices. If the

certificates did not arrive in good condition or did not arrive promptly, you are requested to advise the Washington office in order that any desirable change in the shipment of forms or supplies may be put into effect.

The new procedure in filling orders for supplies is explained in the B. A. E. News of January 9, 1923, par. 15.

4c. SECURE SUPPLY OLD CERTIFICATE FORMS FROM NEW YORK OR CHICAGO OFFICE.

In case any office does not have sufficient Original and Copy forms of the old certificates to last until Jan. 15, an additional supply should be secured from the New York or Chicago office.

DO NOT BEGIN ISSUING CERTIFICATES ON THE NEW FORMS UNTIL JAN. 15.

5c. UNPAID BILLS OF M. PIOWATY & SONS.

Mr. Yaden, Acting Supervising Inspector at Chicago, requests all offices having unpaid inspection bills against M. Piowaty & Sons to forward their fee bills to him and he will present them to the assignee of this firm.

6c. DESTROY OBSOLETE LISTS OF INSPECTORS:

A revised list of Inspectors, dated Jan. 10, is being distributed with this Division Letter. Please locate copies of all former lists in your office and destroy them. Additional copies of the new list will be sent on request. If you observe errors or commissions in the revised sheet, advise the Washington office promptly.

W. C. Hackleman,  
Supervising Inspector.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 3

January 18, 1923

(Contents Confidential)

1a. REPAIRS TO TYPEWRITERS.

Occasionally a branch office advises that the local typewriter agency has reported one of our typewriters in such poor condition that the repairman recommends it be exchanged for a new machine. Such an instance occurred with reference to the stencil-cutting machines in an office on which a considerable amount of money had recently been spent for repairs, the repairman stating that it would be a waste of money to have them thoroughly overhauled.

We requested that the machine which was in the worst condition of those in the office be forwarded to Washington. An examination of the machine upon its arrival indicates that it is in much better condition than many typewriters that have been overhauled and have worked satisfactorily. This

machine, although purchased slightly more than three years ago, has not been used more than 18 months during that period.

The man in charge of the typewriter repair shop, recently established within the Department of Agriculture, previously worked for the L. C. Smith Brothers Typewriter Co. and the Underwood Typewriter Co. and is an expert repairman. He states that the cost of thoroughly overhauling the machine and putting it in first-class condition will not exceed \$12.00, and he sees no reason why it will not then be as satisfactory as a new machine. This man states that, with reasonable care and a thorough overhauling when needed, typewriters should give satisfactory service for six or eight years.

This instance is cited for the guidance of others who may have similar experiences. Inasmuch as overhauling can be done by the Department at actual cost for labor and material, it may be cheaper and more satisfactory in some instances to forward machines to Washington rather than have the overhauling done in the field. These points should be borne in mind.

For your information it may be added that, when old typewriters are exchanged in part payment for new typewriters, all orders must be drawn in the Washington office and such action will not be approved by the General Supply Committee so long as such Committee has a supply of typewriters in storage. In view of the large number of typewriters turned in at the conclusion of the war, typewriters are not on Government contract schedule this year.

2a. ANNUAL REVIEW OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLE MARKETS.

In this week's issue of Weather, Crops and Markets, to be dated Jan. 20, there will be printed the annual review of the fruit and vegetable markets. Important comparisons are made between shipments and prices of 1922 and those of 1921. Five charts accompany the review, each chart emphasizing an outstanding feature of the past year. This is an important issue of the paper to keep for reference. Additional copies can be secured from Washington, if needed. Several smaller articles on fruits and vegetables will be printed, in addition to the annual review. (Continued over)



Weather, Crops and Markets for Jan. 6 contained a special article on the Northwestern apple market, and an abstract from the summary of the New Jersey potato season, showing the wide distribution of Jersey potatoes the past year. The Science Service took this abstract as basis for an interesting map, which was published in The Washington Post of Jan. 13.

An important survey of the certified seed potato situation in each leading State was printed in Weather, Crops and Markets for Jan. 13, starting on the front page. This material was assembled by the Seed Division and is classified by States, for convenient reference. Questions which are put to you may be answered on the basis of this article. The monthly table of shipments of fruits and vegetables also was published on Jan. 13, as well as a revised list of field stations of the News Service.

#### NEWS ITEMS.

Did you notice several important changes in the new address lists distributed with the last Division Letter? - New York office of the Market News Service has moved down the hall to Room 407, as shown on the new list. The number on the Appraiser's Stores Bldg. in Boston has been changed to 408 Atlantic Ave. The Inspection office in Fort Worth moved down the corridor to Room 512 Moore Bldg., and The Live Stock and Meats project is sharing Room 503 with Mr. Googe, who also has Room 501.

Miss Louise Kelly has been appointed as joint clerk in the Fort Worth office, to assist representatives of this Division as well as the Live Stock and Meats Division.

Friends of G.C. White, former Chief of the Transportation Division of this Bureau, will regret to learn of this death, which occurred last Tuesday. Mr. White was one of the original staff of the Office of Markets, having been appointed in December, 1913, when the organization was only a few months old. A few years ago his health failed and he was on furlough for many months. He later returned to duty, but was obliged to go on another furlough in May, 1922, and has been in a sanitarium since that time. It was through Mr. White and his assistants that all arrangements were made with carriers for the telegraphic and mail reports of shipments of fruits and vegetables. This is still a very important part of the Market News Service.

Mr. Sherman expects to spend the next few days at El Centro and other points in the Imperial Valley. On Jan. 29, he will meet in conference with Commissioner G. B. Terrell, of the Texas Dept. of Agriculture. After Friday, Jan. 19, all mail should be addressed to him at Austin, Texas, in care of Mr. G. B. Terrell, Commissioner of Agriculture, marked "Hold."

The early part of this week, Secretary Hoover, of the Dept. of Commerce, called a conference in Washington of parties interested in the manufacture and standardization of containers for food products. Mr. Samson attended sessions of the conference and explained the standardization program of this Bureau, so far as fresh fruits and vegetables are concerned. F. P. Downing, former head of package investigations in this Division, also came from South Bend for the conference and was a visitor to the Bureau on Monday.

The first page of this week's Bureau News announces that the Senate has increased the appropriation for Market News work to the extent of \$273,600 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1923. The bill now goes back to the Committee of Conference of the House and Senate in order to try to reach an agreement between these two bodies. If this additional sum for Market News is permitted to stand, part of the amount will accrue to the benefit of the work on fruits and vegetables, which may permit some extension of the service after July 1.



NEWS ITEMS (Continued)

C. W. Hauck can be addressed at Lakeland, Fla. (General Delivery) until further notice. That probably will be his headquarters for some time.

E. E. Conklin will be at Avoca, N.Y., from Jan. 18 to 26, cooperating with State inspectors of potatoes. He then will proceed to Ohio, possibly stopping at Buffalo and Columbus. At Kenton, Ohio, he will confer with shippers and other members of the trade regarding onion grades.

A wire from R. M. Peterson, of Minneapolis, indicates that a meeting of officials interested in snipping-point inspection of potatoes in the spring wheat area will be held at Fargo, N. Dak., this Friday. On invitation of those holding the conference, either Mr. Peterson or Mr. Robb probably will attend this gathering to discuss the continuance of potato inspection work, especially at passing points in that territory.

Mr. Robb is expected to return to his desk by Monday. Mr. Stillwell probably will be back in Washington on Tuesday.

J. D. Evers spent Monday and Tuesday in the Washington office, before proceeding to Sanford, Fla., where he will operate the field station on celery.

In order to reaudit the accounts of a prominent wool dealer in Louisville, Ky., H. V. DeMott, of the Domestic Wool Section, is spending the greater part of this week in that city.

On the recent list of Inspectors, after the home address of Jay W. Raples, at Buffalo, his phone number should be inserted as Filmore 7117-W.

In the record of December inspections for the Navy, published in this Division Letter, notice should be taken of the increased work in behalf of the passenger steamers of the U. S. Shipping Board in New York City. A record of this additional work is inserted as a foot-note below the usual table.

The list of temporary field stations of the Market News service is unchanged this week and therefore is not printed in this Division Letter.



MARKET NEWS SERVICE
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1b. REVISED "GOD-GOS" PAGE AND SUPPLEMENT TO "H" PAGE OF CODE BEING MAILED.

New copies of the "GOD-GOS" (Miscellaneous Market Phrases) page of the code are being included with this Division Letter to all market and field stations, because in the past many sheets have been sent out which did not contain the Supplement to the "H" Page on the back. The definitions of the various market prices on the supplement represent the manner in which we expect these terms to be used, and everyone who prepares market wires should be familiar with them.

Substitute this sheet, which is revised to date, for the one now in your code book, and destroy the obsolete one. If sufficient copies of this code page are not sent to supply all the code books in any office, additional copies should be requested of Washington.

2b. NEW YORK STATE REVIEW OF GRAPE DEAL.

The Buffalo office of the New York Dept. of Farms and Markets recently issued a mimeographed review of the 1922 grape season in the Chautauqua belt, southwestern New York and northwestern Pennsylvania. Copies of this summary will be mailed in a few days to all market and field stations. If your copy is not received in due time, please advise the Washington office.

3b. BROCCOLI SEED SCARCE IN OREGON.

Mrs. L. B. Gerry, assistant in the Spokane office, recently submitted the following clipping from a northwestern newspaper:

Roseburg Growers Face Scarcity of Broccoli Seed.

Roseburg, Oregon, Jan. 7.

Stores of broccoli seed in local banks have been practically exhausted, it was reported, and only a few pounds remain for sale. Because of the extreme value of broccoli seed, it is carefully protected in bank vaults and in the safety deposit boxes of the growers, and is withdrawn only as needed for planting.

Broccoli seed recently increased in price from \$25 to \$32 a pound. Based on the price, an ounce of broccoli seed is three times as valuable as silver.

4b. INTERESTING ITEMS FROM SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS.

The semi-annual reports of market station activities, now being received from branch offices, are circulated in Washington among those particularly interested in them. They finally reach the editor of the D. L., who has culled the following facts from the many which might be quoted:

BOSTON: Issues a semi-weekly review of the produce markets, jointly with other projects of this Bureau in that city. This is mailed on Tuesday and Friday to 42 New England newspapers which have requested it. Radio reports, 200 to 300 words in length, are prepared daily except Saturday, phoned to the American Radio and Research Corporation, Medford Hillside, Mass., and broadcast by them at 1:30 P.M. Receipts and prices are given daily over the phone to the State Dept. of Agriculture; in return our office receives prices and receipts of homegrown produce on the Boston market. Prices are furnished every Wednesday by long-distance phone to the New Hampshire Dept. of Agriculture, at Concord, N. H. The review of the Boston market each week in the New York Packer is prepared mainly from reports issued by our office.

PITTSBURGH: Prepares a special report of the local market on apples, potatoes, onions and dairy products for the Associated Press. This is wired by them to Wheeling, Parkersburg, Huntington, Charleston, Clarksburg, Fairmont and Bluefield, W. Va. (Additional news next week)



5b. TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OPENED DURING YEAR 1922.

The 38 field stations listed below were opened during 1922. For the first half of this year, the field program will be almost the same:

Location	Crops Covered	Period of Operation
San Benito, Texas	Cabbage	Jan. 17 - Apr. 15
Sanford, Fla.	Celery	Jan. 19 - Apr. 15
Hammond, La.	Strawberries	Mar. 27 - May 6
Laredo, Texas	Onions	Apr. 3 - May 11
Hastings, Fla.	Potatoes	Apr. 3 - May 13
Crystal City, Texas	Onions	Apr. 5 - May 20
Chadbourn, N. C.	Strawberries	Apr. 18 - May 6
Judsonia, Ark.	Strawberries	May 1--727
Charleston, S. C.	Potatoes	May 12 - June 3
Monett, Mo.	Strawberries	May 12 - June 7
Bowling Green, Ky.	Strawberries	May 13 - 29
Ocala, Fla.	Watermelons	May 22 - June 14
Fort Valley, Ga.	Peaches	May 27 - July 15
Jacksonville, Texas	Tomatoes	June 3 - 30
Crystal Springs, Miss.	Tomatoes	June 5 - 24
Brawley, Calif.	Cantaloupes	June 5 - July 12
Elizabeth City, N. C.	Potatoes	June 10 - 28
Thomasville, Ga.	Watermelons	June 19 - July 6
" "	Cantaloupes	June 19 - July 3
Hempstead, Texas	Watermelons	July 7 - 19
Phoenix, Ariz.	Cantaloupes	July 7 - 20
Macon, Ga.	Watermelons	July 10 - Aug. 8
Kearney, Nebr.	Potatoes	July 10 - Sept. 12
Aberdeen, N. C.	Peaches	July 15 - Aug. 2
Cornelia, Ga.	Peaches	July 18 - 28
Sulphur Springs, Texas	Watermelons	July 19 - Aug. 4
Kennett, Mo.	Watermelons	July 28 - Aug. 12
Caldwell, Ida.	Potatoes	Aug. 4 - Sept. 14
Rocky Ford, Colo.	Cantaloupes	Aug. 17 - Sept. 19
Benton Harbor, Mich.	Apples	Aug. 21 - Oct. 14
" " "	Grapes	Aug. 22 - Oct. 14
" " "	Peaches	Aug. 23 - Sept. 11
" " "	Potatoes	Sept. 29 - Oct. 14
Rochester, N. Y.	Peaches	Sept. 11 - Oct. 11
" "	Apples	Sept. 13 - Apr. 1
" "	Potatoes	Sept. 28 - Apr. 1
" "	Cabbage	Oct. 2 - Jan. 27
Waupaca, Wis.	Potatoes	Sept. 12 - Apr. 1
Presque Isle, Me.	Potatoes	Sept. 13 - Mar. 1
Alliance, Nebr.	Potatoes	Sept. 18 - Dec. 2
Idaho Falls, Ida.	Potatoes	Sept. 19 - Apr. 1
Monte Vista, Colo.	Potatoes	Sept. 23 - Nov. 28
Spokane, Wash.	Apples	Sept. 26 - Mar. 1
Grand Rapids, Mich.	Potatoes	Oct. 17 - May 1
" " "	Apples	Oct. 17 - Nov. 11
Greeley, Colo.	Potatoes	Dec. 4 - Apr. 15.

NOTE: In the spring of 1922, the following stations were still in operation from the previous year - Grand Rapids, Greeley, Idaho Falls, Presque Isle, Rochester, Spokane and Waupaca.

B. C. Boree,  
Investigator in Market Surveys.



January 18, 1923.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK JAN. 8 - 13, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Completed	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Out (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports, Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted, Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Philadelphia - Misc.	1:09	1:33	24	12	4,750	355
Washington - Misc.	1:03	2:05	62	10	3,154	--
Boston - Misc. M	12:49	2:00	71	11	4,027	300
New York - Misc.	12:40	1:30	50	11	4,292	540
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
St. Louis - Misc. Q	12:08	12:31	23	12	3,530	--
Cincinnati - Misc. Q	2:09	2:34	26	10	4,227	650
Pittsburgh - Misc.	12:05	12:32	27	10	3,100	49
Kansas City - Misc. Q	12:10	12:38	28	10	4,675	115
Minneapolis - Misc.	12:05	12:35	30	12	8,445	132
Chicago - Misc.	12:50	2:09	69	11	4,890	2,330
Washington - (Nat'l) REFLECTOR #6 Pl'nuts, Ship. Information	80				38,245	1,935
TOTAL	12:43#	1:25#	42#	189	83,335	6,406
" previous week	12:45#	1:17#	32#	151	72,623	5,460
<u>WESTERN OFFICE (Jan. 2-6)</u>						
Los Angeles - Misc. LR #3	3:21	4:06	45	15	10,440	--
" " previous week	3:16	4:06	50	15	10,480	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				370	176,378	11,866

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK JAN. 8 - 13, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
El Centro - L		12:16	--	1,859	315	--	--
Grand Rapids - R		11:57	2:10	7,896	1,309	--	--
Greeley - R		11:50	12:38	8,453	1,405	1	--
*Idaho Falls - R		2:25	2:46	2,380	793	3	--
*Presque Isle - R		2:18	3:03	4,194	1,331	1	--
Rochester - BFR		3:01	3:49	8,422	772	--	--
*Spokane - B		1:23	3:00	6,283	2,094	--	--
Waupaca - R		12:08	2:29	8,738	1,465	9	--
TOTAL		1:10#	2:34#	48,230			
" previous week		1:00#	2:07#	33,253			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				86,538			

# Average Time. \*Reports issued 3 times a week.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 275,282.



FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE
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1c. COLLECT SURPLUS FORMS FOR THREEFOLD INSPECTION NOTEBOOKS.

Since the majority of Inspectors prefer the ring binder for the Inspector's notebook, no additional orders have been placed for fillers for the threefold-style binder and all the available supply in Washington has been exhausted. It is believed, however, that there are surplus note forms of this style in some offices where they will not be used. Since some Inspectors prefer this type of notes, it is requested that all offices having a supply of blank note forms for threefold binders forward them to the Chicago or New York office. Inspectors who desire this form should then request a supply from Mr. Yaden or Mr. Mercker. The forms for the ring binder (F.P.I.-4) will be furnished from Washington, as heretofore.

2c. DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL INSPECTORS IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON.

F. E. Bailey, District Horticultural Inspector in Washington, has advised us that the list of Washington District Horticultural Inspectors, as published in Division Letter of Jan. 4, Par. 1c., is incorrect. The following list, therefore, should be substituted for the one appearing in that Letter. Opposite the original list, on page 12, insert this marginal note: See revised list in Division Letter of Jan. 18, page 29.

<u>Dist.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Counties</u>
1.	John B. Wiley,	County Court House, Walla Walla.	Columbia, Walla Walla, Garfield Asotin, Whitman.
2.	F. E. Bailey,	County Court House, Spokane	Spokane, Stevens, Pend Oreille, Lincoln, Ferry.
3.	Wendell P. Brown,	County Court House, Prosser.	Benton, Franklin, Adams.
4.	F. C. Nielsen,	County Court House, Wenatchee.	Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan, Grant
5.	W. L. Close,	County Court House, Yakima.	Yakima, Kittitas.
6.	R. B. Phipps,	507½ Main Street, Vancouver.	Clarke, Skamania, Cowlitz, Klickitat, Wahkiakum.
7.	Theo Albert,	St. Helens Hotel Bldg, Chehalis.	Thurston, Mason, Lewis, Grays Harbor, Pacific.
8.	Henry Huff,	Sumner, Wash.	Pierce, Kitsap, Clallam Jefferson.
9.	J. C. Eakle,	417 County-City Bldg, Seattle.	King.
10.	Carl O. Weiss,	Chamber of Commerce, Island, Everett.	San Juan, Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish.



3c.

## INSPECTION REPORTS FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1922

MARKETS	Total	Total	Grand	Total	Inspection for	Declined	FEES ASSESSED				
	Fruits	Vegetables		same			Carriers	for lack	C/L	L.C.L.	Certif-
	C/L & L.C.L.	C/L & L.C.L.		Month			of time	icate			
			Total	1921			Fees	Fees	Copy Fee		
Atlanta	34	26	60	31	15	1	\$ 256	-	\$ 6		
Baltimore	15	17	32	23	-	-	96	\$ 20.00	2		
Boston	38	37	75	40	10	3	296	2.50	6		
Buffalo	18	8	26	19	3	-	88	10.00	4		
Chicago	149	118	267	475	14	-	1032	45.00	29		
Cincinnati	22	27	49	25	3	2	180	10.00	2		
Cleveland	15	35	50	62	9	-	168	17.50	4		
Columbus	17	14	31	15	8	-	120	5.00	-		
Denver	0	3	3	-	-	-	8	-	-		
Detroit	13	24	37	32	2	-	148	-	1		
Erie	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Fort Worth	38	10	48	19	6	-	180	-	2		
Harrisburg	6	0	6	-	6	-	20	2.50	1		
Houston	24	4	28	10	2	-	96	10.00	1		
Indianapolis	18	21	39	19	-	-	152	2.50	1		
Kansas City	34	26	60	27	4	-	220	10.00	2		
Los Angeles	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-		
Memphis	16	19	35	34	18	-	124	2.50	7		
Milwaukee	71	10	81	18	40	-	288	15.00	9		
Minneapolis	39	14	53	47	1	-	196	10.00	2		
New Orleans	33	52	85	20	38	-	272	42.50	24		
New York	255	77	332	216	25	8	1296	20.00	12		
Norfolk	6	3	9	27	1	3	36	-	-		
Omaha	39	2	41	28	3	1	156	5.00	4		
Philadelphia	279	18	297	305	25	11	1112	47.50	52		
Pittsburgh	56	66	122	115	18	3	484	2.50	24		
San Francisco	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-		
St. Louis	46	100	146	47	43	1	584	-	25		
Washington	8	31	39	48	7	-	152	2.50	10		
Wichita	3	3	6	-	-	-	32	-	-		
Wilkes-Barre	5	1	6	1	2	3	24	-	2		
TOTAL	1297	766	2063	1706	538	36	\$7816	\$282.50	\$232		

## RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections .....	1297	Inspections for Carriers....	538
TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections...	766	Declined for Lack of Time...	36
Grand Total C/L and L.C.L. Inspections.....	2063	Total Fees Assessed....	\$8375.50*
Increase over December, 1921.....	21%		

\* Total Fees Assessed includes fees of \$45.00 for 6 mixed cars, 1 inspected in each of the following markets: Denver, Fort Worth, Memphis and Milwaukee, and 2 in Wichita.



## 4c. INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING DECEMBER, 1922.

Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps	Total Number of Inspection		ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS										Cuts made to comply with specifications	Items billed short-weight
			Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		Total Quality INSPECTED							
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	399	10	643536	3260	87500	0	731036	3260	701	15	0	0		
NEW YORK	494	39	487471	191703	21985	527	509456	192230	6577	42	0	0		
PHILADELPHIA	307	20	775505	12694	16872	930	792377	13624	4875	219	0	0		
SAN DIEGO	*	47	523114	31089	33718	0	556832	31089	0	0	0	0		
SAN FRANCISCO	276	-	258433	-	45443	-	303876	-	351	-	0	-		
SAN PEDRO	*	-	858848	-	47160	-	906008	-	615	-	0	-		
TOTAL	1476	116	3546907	238746	252678	1457	3799585	240203	13119	276	0	0		

\* No record of number of inspections.

In addition to the above, 23,760 pounds of butter were inspected and passed for the Navy at Boston.

By request of the Navy Department, the New York office inspected for the U. S. Shipping Board approximately 59,130 lbs. and cut 450 lbs. on account of poor quality.

New York office also inspected 69,473 lbs. of fruits and 141,639 lbs. of vegetables for the United States Lines during December. Of the total of 211,112 lbs. of fruits and vegetables inspected, 38,682 lbs. were rejected.

The report from the Norfolk office states that large quantities of potatoes, cabbage, carrots, apples and oranges have been inspected since December 20, but as no deliveries have been completed and all supplies are subject to final inspection at point of delivery on or before January 4, this work will be reported under date of January, 1923.

At San Pedro other items inspected and passed were as follows: Butter, 19,930 lbs.; Bread, 14,727 lbs.; Nuts, 600 lbs.



5c. SEND IN SPECIMENS OF DOUBTFUL DISEASES OR GRADES:

It has been noticed that some offices frequently send in specimens about which there is some doubt as to the cause of disease or blemish or as to whether stock meets given grade requirements. Other offices scarcely ever send in such material. If the offices that cannot consult frequently Pathologists or Supervising Inspectors do not avail themselves of this opportunity to keep well-posted on diseases and grade determinations, they are placing themselves at a disadvantage. It is realized that in some instances quick and satisfactory reports cannot be furnished, especially on pathological specimens, but this should not reduce the number of samples, as reports received from one sample may enable the Inspector to correctly diagnose the trouble in several subsequent shipments.

If the following points will be kept in mind in submitting pathological material, it will enable the Pathologist to make quicker diagnoses and thus be mutually beneficial:-

1. Send in plenty of specimens, as it is difficult to make a diagnosis from one or two specimens if they do not arrive in good condition.

2. Be careful about wrapping and packing diseased specimens, as many of them are received in such bad condition that it is impossible to get any idea of their original state. The carton should be filled tight with waste paper or some other packing material.

3. Designate the shipping section whenever possible, as this often aids the Pathologist in making a diagnosis.

4. State whether the disease or blemish occurs only occasionally or in considerable amounts and whether it is scattered throughout the load or confined to certain definite locations or packages.

W. C. Hackleman,  
Supervising Inspector.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 4  
January 25, 1923  
(Contents Confidential)

NEWS ITEMS.

Mr. Robb returned to the office on Monday. He visited the Pittsburgh office last Saturday, en route from Chicago to Washington. Mr. Stillwell did not get back until Wednesday from his trip to Chicago and other points.

Mr. Samson is attending the annual meeting of the National Cannery Association at Atlantic City today and Friday. He will discuss the matter of grades for canning-house tomatoes and other products. On this trip he may stop at the Philadelphia office.

During the months of February and March, Robert Bier will be working at Sanford, Fla., and vicinity. He will leave Washington for this purpose next Saturday, Jan. 27. Mr. Bier expects to do important field work in the grading and handling of celery and will conduct some investigations in cooperation with C. W. Hauck, who is at present at Lakeland, Fla. Mr. Bier's address during February and March will be: In care of American Fruit Growers, Inc., Sanford, Fla.

H. A. Spilman, on his trip in the enforcement of the Standard Container Act, will soon reach Mobile, Montgomery and Birmingham, Ala. He will then proceed to points in Georgia and Florida, meeting Mr. Bier at Sanford about Feb. 1.

Many employees in Washington have had to be absent, and some are still absent, on account of an epidemic of the grippe. Perhaps the most severe case is that of L. E. Martin, who is still confined to his home in Virginia and who may not be able to return to duty for several weeks.

"Preparation of Fresh Tomatoes for Market" is the title of Farmers' Bulletin 1291, now available for distribution. This valuable bulletin is the work of F. Earl Parsons, formerly of the Grades and Standards project and the Inspection Service but now on the State staff at Richmond, Va. It is based largely on Mr. Parsons' extensive investigations in the field and is fully illustrated. Copies can be had from Miss A. P. Rhodes, of the Division of Information in this Bureau.

Preceding the regular meeting of the St. Louis USDA Club on Jan. 12, which was held in the office of the Market News Service, V. G. Gibson explained and demonstrated the use of the various machines required to publish the daily bulletins. He also discussed fully the methods employed in collecting and disseminating market reports. His talk was illustrated by charts and tables, particularly that portion relating to the unloads of fruits and vegetables in St. Louis and the sources of these supplies.

Lee R. Miller, formerly of the field staff of the News Service and for a short time connected with the St. Louis office, visited that office on Jan. 13, en route to Chicago.

Latest instructions from C. J. Hansen, at San Francisco, indicate that his mail address should be changed to P. O. Box 3324, Ferry Station, San Francisco. Please make this change on your copy of the list of Inspectors, dated Jan. 10.



1a. ARRANGEMENT OF OFFICES IN WASHINGTON.

It has been nearly three years since a floor plan of the Fruit and Vegetable offices was published in the Division Letter. A revised diagram is being distributed with this issue of the Letter, and the following list shows the general duties performed by occupants of each room. No attempt is made to show seniority or precedence, and only the principal duties of each employee are listed. Every employee has miscellaneous work or odd jobs which occupy a portion of his (or her) time.

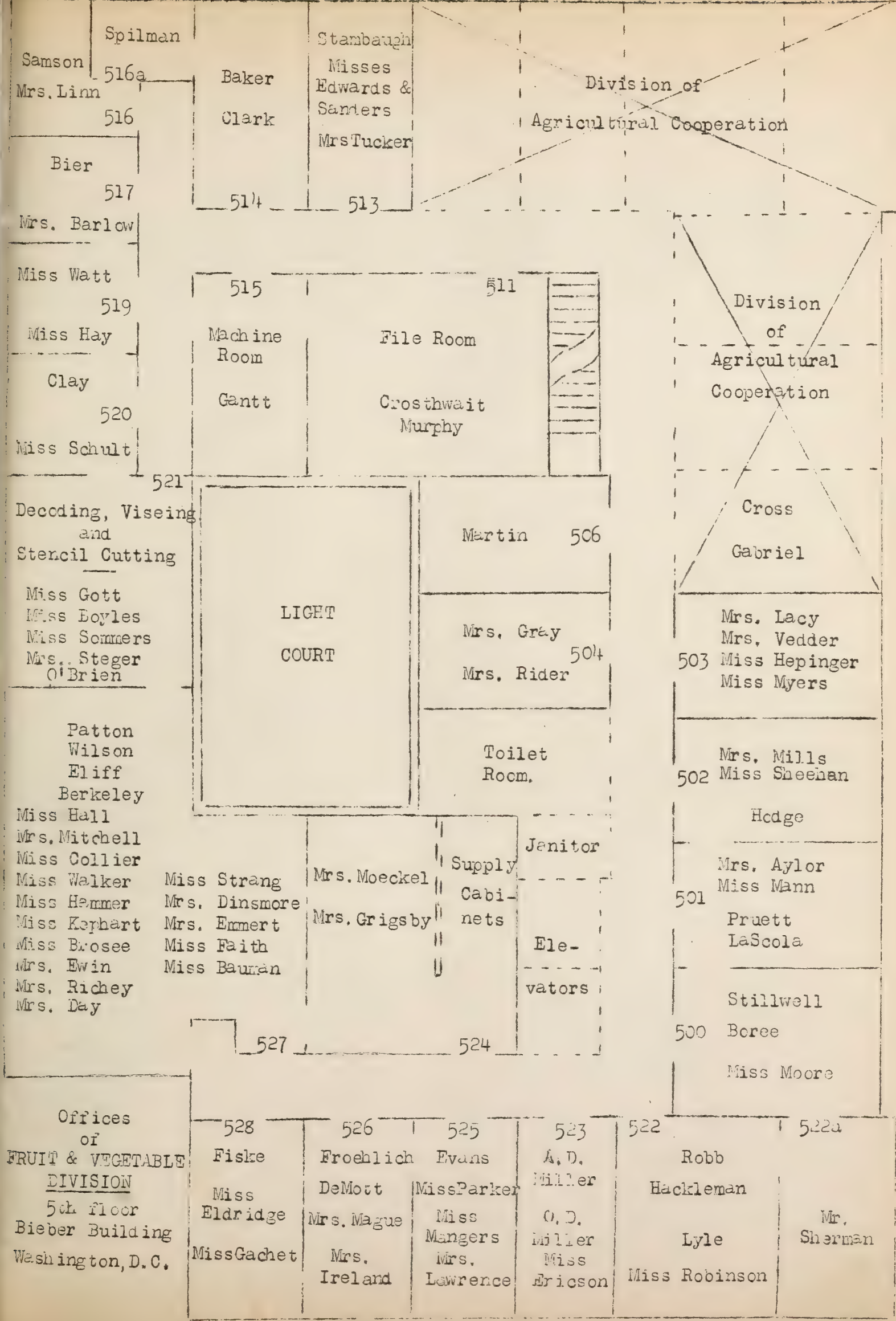
DIVISIONAL OFFICES:

Room 522A - Wells A. Sherman, in charge F. & V. Div. and Domestic Wool Section.  
Room 525 - W. L. Evans, general business administration of F. & V. Division.  
Room 501 - Mrs. M. M. Aylor } supplies, purchases, leases, miscellaneous  
Helen W. Mann } orders and business correspondence.  
James P. Pruett } messenger service; handling of mail, etc.  
Frank A. LaScola }  
Room 502 - Mrs. Ethel Mills } personnel records, appointments, letters of  
Dorothy E. Sheehan } authorization, accounts, etc.  
Frederic E. Hodge, inventories, property records, etc.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE:

Room 500 - E. W. Stillwell, in charge; administrative work and general correspondence.  
B. C. Boree, assisting Mr. Stillwell.  
Mildred F. Moore, stenographer and typist.  
Room 520 - Harold J. Clay, in charge market reports on F. & V., peanuts and honey; editing reports on honey and peanuts.  
Verna M. Schult, preparing radio reports; assisting with honey and peanut reports and correspondence; typing and stencil-cutting.  
Room 519 - Lucy Watt, in charge of unload reports; visiting market wires.  
Robbie B. Hay, tabulations of peanut and unload reports.  
Room 521 - Mary E. Gott } stencil-cutting; checking stencils, and  
Mary Etta Boyles } miscellaneous typing.  
Lottie Sommers }  
Mrs. M. Steger, checking decoded wires, calling railroad yards, preparing f.o.b. radio report, stencil-cutting.  
Frank A. O'Brien, messenger work and assisting in mimeograph room.  
Room 517 - Mrs. R. E. Barlow, editing daily bulletins, stencil-checking, tabulations of arrivals and unloads.  
Room 515 - J. E. M. Gantt, mimeographing and filing of stencils.











January 25, 1923.

Room 511 -

Edwin Crosthwait, filing of daily bulletins, etc.; answering requests for price information; stencil-checking; substitute market reporter (Wash. market).

Walter L. Murphy, decoding market wires, stencil-checking, assisting in unload work.

Room 513 -

\*Pearl Edwards, in charge of mailing lists and Addressograph plates.

Aaron Stambaugh, local (Wash.) market reporter; decoding wires; assisting with mailing lists.

Mrs. R. G. Tucker, tabulations of peanut reports; assisting in unload work; stencil-checking.

Elizabeth R. Sanders, miscellaneous typing; tabulations of peanuts.

Room 504 -

Mrs. M. B. Gray } filing of wires, daily bulletins (other than Wash.),  
Mrs. L. Rider } summaries, transportation correspondence and field station correspondence.

\*Mrs. Alice M. Smith, graphotype operator in Linworth Bldg.

Room 527 -

F. M. Patton, in charge transportation work; general correspondence.

Mary B. Hall, carlot summary; supervising and editing tabulations.

Mrs. E. M. Mitchell, assisting with carlot summary; adjustment of telegraphic records on basis of the monthly comparisons.

Lester E. Eliff } tabulations  
T. E. Berneley } of daily telegraphic reports.

Martha R. Faith } general  
Cecilia G. Bauman } typing and clerical work.

Julia Collier } monthly comparisons  
Eana M. Walker } of telegraphic and mail reports of shipments; related correspondence.

Dena Hammer, watching shipping seasons and reminding superintendents when to begin reports.

Howard R. Wilson, general assistant, supervising tabulators.

Lillian E. Kephart }  
Bertie Brosee }  
Mrs. S. E. W. Ewin } tabulations  
Mrs. A. S. Ridley } of monthly  
Mrs. Hattie B. Day } mail reports.  
Barbara A. Strang }  
Mrs. D. P. Dinsmore }  
Mrs. M. P. Emmert }

Room 524 -

Mrs. H. L. Moeckel } distributing mail-report blanks to agents and  
Mrs. Louise Grigsby } checking in reports as received.



FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE - Fruits and Vegetables:

## Room 522 -

F. G. Robb, in charge; administrative work and general correspondence.  
W. C. Hackleman, assisting Mr. Robb.  
F. M. Lyle, local inspections.  
Grace L. Robinson, stenographer and typist; also secretarial work for Mr. Sherman.

## Room 506 -

L. H. Martin, recording certificates and assisting with local inspections. (Certificate files in this room)

## Room 503 -

Mrs. C. E. Lacy ) recording and filing certificates, and  
Mrs. J. N. Vedder ) maintaining card-index record.  
Nellie Hepinger )  
Frances O. Myers, abstracting statistical data for B.P.I.

GRADES AND STANDARDS WORK:

## Room 516 -

H. W. Samson, in charge; administrative work and general correspondence.  
Mrs. Cecile Linn, stenographer and typist; card records of container tests, etc.

## Room 517 -

Robert Bier, field investigations and demonstrations. (Similar work is done by E. E. Conklin, Jr., and C. W. Hauck.)

Standard Container Act:

## Room 516A -

H. A. Spilman, package investigations and enforcement of Standard Container Act.

## Room 514 -

T. C. J. Baker, testing containers submitted by factories, etc.  
Frank A. Clark, assisting Mr. Baker in mornings and helping in the mimeograph room in afternoons.

EDITORIAL AND STATISTICAL WORK:

## Room 528 -

G. B. Fiske, in charge, preparing Department and Farmers' bulletins; supervising periodical reviews, etc.  
May M. Eldridge, assisting with Mr. Fiske's bulletins and Tuesday review; preparing marketgrams and special wires.  
Margaret Gachet, tabulations and general typing.

## Room 526 -

Paul Froehlich, preparing weekly Division Letter and fruit and vegetable material for Weather, Crops and Markets; assisting with Tuesday review; miscellaneous correspondence, special reports, etc.  
Mrs. D. S. Ireland, price tabulations and miscellaneous statistical work.



January 25, 1923.

RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATIONAL WORK:

Room 523 -

- A. D. Miller ) office studies and field surveys of important  
O. D. Miller ) problems in marketing and distribution.  
Anna L. Ericson, miscellaneous statistical work.

DOMESTIC WOOL SECTION:  
(Excess Profits on 1918 Clip)

Room 525 -

- W. L. Evans, in immediate charge; administrative work.  
Mamie C. Parker, correspondence, and mailing of checks to growers;  
temporarily assisting with Inspection records.  
Hilda L. Mangers, stenographer and typist.  
Mrs. M. E. Lawrence, assisting with auditing and distribution work.

Room 526 -

- H. V. DeMott, auditor for Domestic Wool Section; assisting Mr. Fiske  
with preparation of Department bulletins.  
Mrs. Ethel M. Mague, computing distribution of excess profits to  
wool growers.

Zuleika W. Felder, assigned to office of Disbursing Clerk to write  
checks for Domestic Wool Section, etc.

(Continued from Page 40)

6b. WYOMING SEED POTATOES.

Reference was made last week to the article on certified seed potatoes, prepared by the Seed Division and published in Weather, Crops and Markets for Jan. 13. Evidently information was not available for the State of Wyoming. Under date of Jan. 20, Mr. A. F. Vass, Professor of Agronomy in the University of Wyoming at Laramie, wrote as follows on this matter:

"I was interested in the report in the January 13th issue  
regarding certified seed potatoes, and wondered why Wyoming had been  
omitted from the list. Our acreage this year was 1,900 acres, with  
a yield of 100,000 bushels of certified dry-land seed, the most of  
which has been sold at \$1.60 per 100 lbs. Our dry-land, high  
altitude seed has made an excellent record wherever it has gone.  
Cobblers and Bliss Triumph are the varieties grown and find a ready  
market in the South."

E. W. S.



TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTS

## Market News Service on Fruits and Vegetables.

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will close
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	V. D. Callanan	Apples	Sept. 26	Mar. 1
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	J. D. Snow	Potatoes	Sept. 13	Mar. 1
ROCHESTER, N.Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage*	Sept. 11 Sept. 13 Sept. 23 Oct. 2	Oct. 11* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 27*
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	C. E. Schultz	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS. Chamber of Commerce	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 221 Ashton Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples*	Oct. 17 Oct. 17	May 1 Nov. 11*
GREELEY, COLO. 214 Post Office Bldg.	885	G. E. Prince	Potatoes	Dec. 4	Apr. 15
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	W. H. Hall	Lettuce	Jan. 9	Mar. 24
SANFORD, FLA. Chamber of Commerce	910	J. D. Evers	Celery	Jan. 22	Mar. 31

\* Report discontinued.

NOTE: This list will not be published again until March..



January 25, 1923.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE
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1b. ADDITIONS TO "KO" (CABBAGE) PAGE OF CODE.

Effective February 1, on the "KO" (Cabbage) page of the code, add

KOC -  $1\frac{1}{2}$  bbl. crates

KOF - Barrel crates

In the phrase "KOG - Pony crates, approx. 60 lbs. net," enclose the words "approx. 60 lbs. net" in parenthesis, indicating that "KOG" is to be decoded as "Pony crates."

Cabbage crates vary so greatly in both capacity and weight, depending on the manufacturer and the firmness of the cabbage, that it is difficult to quote them accurately. It is believed, however, that quoting cabbage containers by their approximate capacity rather than by the weight of their contents will be more exact, and it will not imply (as does our present method) that the reporter has weighed the crates on which he quotes.

The net weight of cabbage in crates from the Southeast and the Mississippi Valley normally ranges from 80 to 100 lbs. unless the heads are unusually solid and well packed in, but no net weight can be definitely specified because of the wide variation in the weight of the stock. According to Farmers' Bulletin 1196, "Standard Containers for Fruits and Vegetables," the capacity of Atlantic Coast type crates is 7,128 cu. in., that of the Mississippi Valley type crates 7,168 cu. in., and of the California type 7,695 cu. in. These can all be described as "barrel crates." The Colorado crate contains 11,038 cu. in., and the large Texas crate about 10,000 cu. in. Both can be described as " $1\frac{1}{2}$  bbl. crates." Small crates from California, Tennessee and other States can be called "pony crates." Occasional crates will appear on the market which will not fall under any of the above groupings, and the designation of such crates will have to be determined as each case occurs.

The code symbols "KOF" through "KON" will remain on the "KO" page of the code for the present; but in market wires and reports use "barrel crates," " $1\frac{1}{2}$  bbl. crates," and "pony crates" whenever possible. The paragraph headed "Use of Packages," on the reverse of the "KO" page, is canceled by these instructions.

2b. DISTINGUISH "FRENCH STRAIN" CELERY FROM "GOLDEN SELF-BLANCHING" IN MARKET REPORTS

The following wire was sent to all stations on Jan. 24:

"Until otherwise notified, describe celery now being extensively shipped from Florida with long slender stems, very leafy tops, rather pithy, and lacking heart, as 'French Strain,' using suffix 'AC' on 'MA' page of code, to distinguish from regular Golden Self-Blanching usually shipped this time of year."

The bulk of the early celery crop in Florida this year was sown with seed secured through Chase & Co. and said to have been grown in France. Celery seed from France is considered by most seedsmen to be superior to that grown in this country, but this special lot of seed is producing distinctly inferior celery. In securing quotations on celery, it will be well to ask the dealer whether the stock is the old Golden Self-Blanching or the new strain, as the latter type can be expected to sell at a heavy discount. Further details relating to this celery will appear in a later Division Letter.

In the Division Letter of Mar. 2, 1922, it was stated that stations publishing celery reports covering several markets should insert the following statement in their heading: "Quotations are on Golden Self-Blanching (often called Golden Heart) variety unless otherwise stated." So long as the French strain celery appears on the markets, California celery should be described in the wires as Golden Heart.



January 25, 1923.

3b. REPORT CREDITS DESIRED ON POOR MIMEOGRAPH PAPER.

(Reply)

If any office has laid aside unsatisfactory mimeograph paper received from the Mathers-Lamm Paper Co., on which it desires to request credits and the privilege of returning the paper, notice must be given to W. L. Evans (by leased wire if necessary) not later than Tuesday, Jan. 30, as otherwise the matter of credits can not be considered. Any office which has not already advised Washington concerning this matter should do so at once, as requested in Division Letter of Jan. 11. These dealers are asking for final settlement on orders which have been delivered.

4b. CORRECTION ON "GCD-COS" PAGE OF CODE.

On the "GCD-COS" page of the code, sent to all market and field stations with the last Division Letter, strike out the meaning for "GODOS", leaving that symbol blank for future use. The code word "GAHAB" was previously assigned to the phrase "No carlot arrivals and no cars on track." (See D.L. for Aug. 25, 1921)

5b. ONION SITUATION IN NEW YORK CITY.

On Jan. 22, W. H. Stanton, of the New York office, wrote the following important letter concerning the local onion situation:

"The market on domestic onions in New York City has been rather dull of late, despite the fact that the arrivals have been comparatively light. Since the 15th of the month arrivals of domestic stock have totaled only 84 cars, which means that they averaged only 12 cars a day. Normally, this market consumes about 30 cars a day during this season of the year, and a number of the dealers are at a loss to account for the light demand. Since the 15th of the month there were received also approximately 91 cars of Spanish onions, but they have very little effect as a rule on the demand for the domestic article and this would not account in full for the conditions that exist today.

"I purposely got in touch with various storage warehouses to determine the quantity of onions stored and find that there are approximately 160 cars. A large portion of these no doubt belong to local dealers, but it is also true that a certain portion have been put into the warehouses at the request of some of the shippers. Undoubtedly, the local jobbers are more or less aware of the fact that a large quantity of onions has been stored in the last month or so, and there is some ground for the belief that their knowledge has had more or less effect in preventing increases in prices despite the comparatively light receipts.

"It may be interesting to determine whether similar conditions exist in other principal markets."

HOW ABOUT YOUR MARKET?

E. W. Stillwell,  
Specialist in Market News  
(Fruits and Vegetables)



January 25, 1923.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK JANUARY 15-20, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number			
	Last Crop Stencil Completed	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports, Mailed, Postea, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted, Delivered	
EASTERN CIRCUIT							
New York - Misc.	R	12:40	1:10	30	11	4,912	517
Philadelphia - Misc.		12:44	1:14	30	11	4,880	355
Boston - Misc.	M	1:01	1:48	47	12	4,327	300
Washington - Misc.		12:56	2:28	92	10	3,105	--
WESTERN CIRCUIT							
St. Louis - Misc.	Q	12:57	1:21	24	14	3,575	375
Cincinnati - Misc.	Q	2:03	2:28	25	10	4,234	650
Minneapolis - Misc.		12:11	12:41	30	12	8,460	132
Pittsburgh - Misc.		12:00	12:35	35	10	3,115	49
Kansas City - Misc.	Q	12:14	12:54	40	10	5,851	--
Chicago - Misc.		12:51	2:13	82	11	4,900	1,360
Washington - (Nat'l) BFLMOR#6 P'nuts, Ship. Information							
TOTAL		12:45#	1:29#	44#	192	96,904	5,677
" previous week		12:43#	1:25#	42#	189	83,335	6,406
WESTERN OFFICE (Jan. 8-13)							
Los Angeles - Misc. LR#3		3:23	4:16	53	18	13,508	--
" " previous week		3:21	4:06	45	15	10,440	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				562		287,290	17,543

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK JAN. 15-20, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
El Centro - L	1:59	2:21	2,520	346	10	--
Grand Rapids - R	11:52	2:08	7,902	1,310	--	--
Greeley - R	12:53	1:41	8,486	1,408	--	--
*Idaho Falls - R	1:49	2:17	2,415	805	2	--
Rochester - BFR	2:49	3:22	4,775	500	--	35
*Presque Isle - R	2:37	2:57	4,845	1,406	1	--
*Spokane - B	1:17	2:25	4,102	1,315	--	37
Waupaca - R	11:57	2:08	4,992	852	--	43
TOTAL	1:19#	2:25#	39,437			
" previous week	1:10#	2:34#	48,280			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			125,975			

# Average Time.

\* Reports issued 3 times a week.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 430,808.



FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE1c. CHECKS COVERING INSPECTIONS BOTH BEFORE AND AFTER JAN. 15.

When a check is received covering fees for inspections made prior to Jan. 15 and also after that date, the check should be listed on the letter of transmittal for fees after Jan. 15. An extra copy of this letter of transmittal should be made, and on this copy and the one sent to "Audits and Accounts" it should be noted that "in addition to \$\_\_\_\_\_ for certificates A9 & 10, this check also pays for inspections \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, which were made before Jan. 15." The extra copy of the letter of transmittal should be sent to this office with the blue fee slips of inspections made before Jan. 15. The fee slips of inspections made after Jan. 15 should be mailed to "Audits and Accounts," as usual.

2c. REPORTING FEES OF MIXED CARS ON THE NEW CERTIFICATES.

When mixed cars containing two or three commodities are inspected, the proper fee should be shown on each certificate. When more than three commodities are inspected in one car, the fee space on the certificate covering the largest quantity should be marked "\$7.50 for car". In the space for "Fee" on each other certificate issued on commodities in this car should be the statement - "See Certificate No. A \_\_\_\_." Reference should be made under "Remarks" on each certificate on mixed car to all other certificates issued on the other products found in the car.

3c. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING NEW CERTIFICATE FORMS.

Since the letter "A" is a part of the certificate number on the new series of certificates, it should always be typed on the copies together with the numerals in order to avoid confusion with the old series of numbers.

Reports from some offices indicate that the numbers did not run consecutively in the supply of new certificates. Since each office is charge with a certain block of certificates, it is important that the office begin with the lowest number and use them in consecutive order. Each office should see if its supply of forms corresponds to the numbers it was advised had been shipped to it. In case the lowest number was not on top of the pile and you started with a higher number, advise the Washington office of the numbers used and begin with the lowest-numbered certificate, proceeding until you reach the block of numbers already used.

4c. NEW STRAIN OF FLORIDA CELERY.

Inspectors in eastern markets will no doubt be called upon to examine several cars of a new strain of Florida celery that has already been the object of some complaint by receivers. A considerable acreage, especially of the early crop, has been planted with seed that was bought for an improved French strain of Paris Golden Heart variety. The crop from this seed has very tall stalks with little heart formation; the branches are usually rather coarse and woody and seem to wilt quickly. It is not likely that any inspections will be requested to determine variety or grade on this stock, but quality and condition are likely to be points of controversy.

Mr. Bier expects to supervise the grading and packing of celery for some shippers in the Sanford district after Feb. 1 and will furnish more detailed information regarding this variety as soon as he has an opportunity to familiarize himself with the field conditions.



5c. USE CARE IN THE WORDING OF "COLLECT" TELEGRAMS.

A "Collect" telegram was recently sent from one of our offices that cost the party receiving it \$7.56. By careful wording, all the necessary information could have been included in a night letter of 50 words. It is not surprising that this party has criticized the sender of the telegram, and also the Inspection Service, for this waste of money. We should use as much care in wording "Collect" telegrams as if we expected to pay for them. It seems foolish to incorporate such words as "the," "are," "of," etc., when the meaning is not impaired by omitting them.

6c. SPREADING OF CAULIFLOWER A FACTOR OF CONDITION.

The question has been raised as to whether or not spread heads of cauliflower should be thrown out of grade at receiving point. Since the flowers may spread in transit, depending on the temperature and length of time en route, spreading should be considered a factor of condition and handled in the same manner as decay, scald, etc.

7c. MAKE AN EXTRA FEE BILL WHEN FURNISHING COPIES OF CERTIFICATES.

In order that the records may be kept straight in the Washington office, it will be necessary to make four copies of each fee bill for certificate copies. The fourth copy should be sent in to "Audits and Accounts" at the same time the certificate copy is sent out. A white fee bill should be used for this extra copy until a new supply, printed on a different-colored paper, can be supplied. When the fee is paid, the blue fee bill should be handled in the same manner as those for the other fees. In all cases the four copies should be marked "Copy" as at present.

F. G. Robb,  
Specialist in Inspection.







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 5  
February 1, 1923  
(Contents Confidential)

1a. HONEY GRADES TO BE PROPOSED TO TRADE.

The American Honey Producers' League will meet in annual session at St. Louis next week. This meeting will be attended by H. W. Samson, of the Grades and Standards Project, and Dr. E. F. Phillips, Apiculturist of the Department. Mr. Samson will leave Washington on Monday evening, reaching St. Louis by Wednesday morning and remaining in that city a day or two.

There will be exhibited to the League the largest and finest collection of honey samples ever assembled. The 300 samples vary in color, from very dark to an almost colorless liquid. These bottles of honey were measured scientifically as to color under the direction of Dr. Phillips by Bernhard Kurrelmeyer, of Johns Hopkins University. Since the completion of this work in the Department laboratories, Mr. Kurrelmeyer has returned to Johns Hopkins.

The visit of Dr. Phillips and Mr. Samson to the convention in St. Louis is for the purpose of securing from the trade a definite expression of opinion as to where the line should be drawn between various grades of honey, and how many grades, such as Water White, White, Light Amber and Dark Amber, are needed. In the course of Mr. Kurrelmeyer's studies, the interesting fact was developed that there is no natural grouping of colors in extracted honey secured from plants in widely-separated parts of the country. Different types of pollen produce variations in the color of honey. Further, the same plant produced in the North, or at high altitudes, will secrete a much lighter-color nectar than when grown in the South.

2a. STANDARD PACKAGE BILL REPORTED FAVORABLY TO SENATE.

The Standard Package Bill provides Federal standards for hampers, round stave baskets and splint (or market) baskets. These are in addition to the containers already covered by the Standard Container Act. The present Bill passed the House some time ago and has now been reported favorably to the Senate by the Committee on Manufactures. At a hearing on this Bill last Saturday afternoon, Mr. Samson presented the views of the Department and is glad to say that the Committee voted unanimously for favorable action in reporting the Bill to the Senate. No final vote has been taken by that body.

3a. REPAIRING OF FIELD TYPEWRITERS.

In determining the advisability of sending typewriters to Washington for overhauling in the Department typewriter shop, which was recently established, various factors contributing to the cost should be taken into consideration.

When typewriters are sent to Washington for repairs, the cost will consist not only of the labor and material involved in the repair work in Washington but also of the shipping box, the cost of having the typewriter packed for shipment, and the freight or express charges each way. If shipped by freight, the drayage at both points also must be considered. (Continued)



For instance, the cost of shipping box, packing and transportation of an L. C. Smith typewriter from Chicago to Washington and return will probably amount to \$6.00, to which will be added the actual cost of repairs.

The usual charge for boxes is \$1.00 or \$1.50 and for packing \$1.00. In calculating transportation charges, the weight of the typewriter and box may be considered as approximately 45 pounds for an L. C. Smith typewriter and 35 pounds for an Underwood typewriter.

In each case, therefore, when a machine is in need of overhauling, bids from local typewriter repair companies should be secured and the comparative cost carefully calculated. Attention is called to the fact that in most large cities there are typewriter repair companies other than the typewriter agencies, and often such concerns will do satisfactory work at a lower charge than a typewriter agency. Only recently, in Fort Worth, Mr. Gooze obtained bids from a typewriter repair company of \$6.00 per machine against a bid of \$10.00 by the local typewriter agency, thereby saving \$4.00 on each machine. Whenever the overhauling of a typewriter is taken up with the Washington office, please advise what would be the cost if repaired locally.

In view of the fact<sup>that</sup> at present there are only two men provided to do the repair work of the entire Department, the overhauling of field typewriters in Washington may be delayed three or four weeks, until local accumulated needs have been taken care of or the repair force has been enlarged. The Department shop is not equipped to handle the repairing of machines other than typewriters.

#### NEWS ITEMS.

Mr. Sherman was at Fort Worth on Monday, at Houston on Tuesday, at New Orleans on Wednesday and probably has reached Atlanta by this time. He expects to go to Florida and on Feb. 9 or 10 will attend the convention of the Melon Distributors' Association at Ocala, where he will speak on the shipping-point inspection service. We sympathize with Mr. Sherman in the death of his mother, which occurred last week. Burial was made on Saturday at Arlington Cemetery.

We regret to report the resignation of Admer D. Miller, who is in charge of investigational and research work in this Division. He expects to leave about Feb. 15 to become Assistant Manager of the Fruit Auction Company in New York City, with headquarters on the 8th floor of the Fruit Trade Building, 204 Franklin St. This company operates an auction on the lower floors of the Fruit Trade Building, in addition to auctions on the piers, and also has branches in Philadelphia and Baltimore. Mr. Miller will direct the activities of the employees of the company and will assist in reorganizing the methods of the auction along the most-advanced lines. This is the largest auction company in the United States, about half of its business being in imported products and the other half in domestic fruits and vegetables. It controls practically all of the auction sales of bananas. Mr. Miller joined the field staff of the Market News Service in June, 1918. For more than a year he operated temporary stations in the Southeast and in the Middle West and made investigations preparatory to the issuance of reports on peanuts. In the fall of 1919, he became associated with the Domestic Wool Section and for a while was in charge of that work. He did a great deal of field auditing for the Wool Section, traveling as far as the Pacific Coast. During the past year or more Mr. Miller has been engaged in investigational work, having made a thorough study of the auction companies in 14 cities. His bulletin on American Fruit and Produce Auctions has been completed and will be an important contribution to the very limited literature on this subject. His work has always been thorough and effective. Mr. Miller will be missed from our staff and we can but wish him well in his new duties in New York.



NEWS ITEMS (CONTINUED)

Because of the death of a sister, F. J. Baehler left Chicago for Dubuque, Iowa, on Wednesday and will not return until Saturday.

Mr. Yaden, Acting Supervising Inspector in Chicago, made an official trip to the Memphis office of the Inspection Service today.

H. J. Clay expects to make a short trip to the peanut sections of Virginia and North Carolina the early part of next week. He will be accompanied by A. A. Ruark, of the Photographic Section. They will visit Suffolk, Va., and possibly Edenton, N.C., and other points, to secure photographs and other data to be used in the completion of a bulletin on the marketing and distribution of peanuts.

The market reports on peanuts have been enlarged by periodical reports of the Denver market, which will be secured by Paul A. Cauble, Inspector in that city.

In order to study the methods of financing fruit and truck crops in the South and the resultant control of the marketing of these products, O. D. Miller expects to leave Washington within a few days for Gainesville, Sanford and other points in Florida. He may be absent 6 or 8 weeks.

The present address of C. W. Hauck is 413 South Florida Ave., Lakeland. Mr. Hauck is attending the South Florida fair at Tampa this week, where he will discuss with growers the grading of truck crops and will display a considerable number of colored photographs illustrating this work.

Having left Avoca, N.Y., Mr. Conklin visited the onion district at South Deerfield, Mass., and then changed his proposed itinerary so as to visit our offices at New York and Philadelphia and to confer with members of the trade in those cities. He will be at Philadelphia until Feb. 5 and expects to be in Pittsburgh Feb. 5-8.

We are sorry to announce the resignation of F. M. Coray, Inspector on the Chicago staff, effective Feb. 12. Mr. Coray took up inspection work last August and has rendered good service. He will manage a walnut ranch in California.

H. C. Miller, formerly an Inspector in Philadelphia but recently connected with the New York staff, went to Caribou, Maine, on Tuesday, where he will supervise shipping-point inspection of potatoes for a short period.

Mr. Spiluan will be with Mr. Bier, at Sanford, Fla., during the next two weeks, studying the grading of celery and investigating containers used for truck in that district.

Anticipating a rather early discontinuance of the special apple reports at Spokane, V. D. Callanan, in charge of that office, will leave about Feb. 15 on an extensive tour of the fruit districts in the Northwest, checking finally the periodical reports rendered by apple shippers and dealers.

W. H. Mosier, in charge of the Market News station on potatoes at Waupaca, Wis., has begun to issue a weekly review of the situation, in addition to his regular market reports.

Miss Clare Fricke, clerk in the Chicago office of the Inspection Service, has resigned and has been succeeded by Miss Lillian O'Connell, formerly of the War Department in Washington.

Advice from the St. Louis office indicates that a luncheon was given on Jan. 25, jointly by the St. Louis USDA Club and the Chamber of Commerce, in honor of Assistant Secretary Pugsley, who gave a most interesting talk on the buying power of the American farmer and the agricultural extension work done by this Department. Every employee of the Department in St. Louis and vicinity was invited to this luncheon.

The Los Angeles office of the California Department of Agriculture was moved today from Room 217 to Room 285, Wholesale Terminal Bldg. Please note this change on the recently-issued list of inspection offices, and address future correspondence to R. C. Butler or to Earl Wilson at Room 285.



February 1, 1923.

## MARKET SERVICE

1b. CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS ON "C," "KO," "KU," "MU," and "WA" PAGES OF CODE.

The following changes will be effective Feb. 8:

On "C" (Receipts and Supplies) page of code, change

CUK Supplies accumulating UK to

CUK Supplies increasing UK

On "KO" (Cabbage) page, add

KOR Sacked per ton delivered.

(Unless more than one type or variety is quoted, "Per ton delivered" is to follow the price, as: "Sacked Danish type, \$30 per ton delivered," or, if sacked locally, "Danish type, sacked locally, \$30 per ton delivered.")

On "KU" (Cantaloupes) page, add

KUZIJ Michigan crates, 11 x 11

KUZI K " " 13 x 13

KUZIM " " 14 x 14

On "MU" (Lettuce) page, add a new group of suffixes

SIZES:

OB 3 dozen OG 4½ dozen OM 5 dozen

OD 3½ " OJ 4½ " and smaller ON 5½ "

OF 4 " OK 4½ " " larger OQ 6 "

On "WA" (Spinach, etc.) page, change

WED Round bushel baskets to

WED Bushel baskets

These additions are largely the result of suggestions made by Mr. Stiles, of the Chicago office. Suggestions for other changes in the code that are thought necessary will be welcomed from other offices.

2b. CLASSIFICATION OF SERVICES OVER LEASED WIRE DURING JANUARY.

During January, 93 questions relating to market reports were settled over the leased wire, exclusive of 31 voluntary corrections which were sent. This is an increase of 11 services over those for December. It will be noted that the percentage of "Errors by Markets" increased more than 25% and the "Telegraphic Errors" 66-2/3% during the month, while the figures under the headings "Insufficient Information by Markets" and "Unclassified Services" showed a decrease.

Name of Market Serviced	Total number of services to Markets	Errors by Markets	Insufficient Information by Markets	Telegraphic Errors	Unclassified Services to Mkts.	Voluntary Corrections
Baltimore	7	5	1	1		1
Boston	7	5		2		3
Chicago	17	7	3	3	4	3
Cincinnati	9	2	1	3	3	
Kansas City #	12	7		2	3	1
Minneapolis *	3	1	1		1	1
New York	9	3	2	2	2	8
Philadelphia	8	3		3	2	6
Pittsburgh	9	5		1	3	
St. Louis	12	2	1	3	5	8
TOTAL	93	41	9	20	23	31

# including Fort Worth, coded by Kansas City.

\* including St. Paul.



February 1, 1923.

3b. INTERESTING ITEMS FROM SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS.

PITTSBURGH office furnishes 330 market reports to one wholesale firm in that city. These reports are mimeographed on paper furnished by the firm and mailed in their own envelopes to their extensive list of shippers. The Department is relieved of the expense of paper and envelopes in this case, and in addition reaches approximately 330 shippers who probably would not be included in any of our mailing lists. Mr. Boyd cooperates with the Pennsylvania Bureau of Markets in securing market information on produce, livestock, butter, eggs and cheese. The information secured for the State Bureau is sent almost exclusively to newspapers and county agents in western Pennsylvania.

CHICAGO issues a "special" report on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. This shows the prices paid by retailers of fruits and vegetables and is sent to an active mailing list of 260 names, consisting of retail grocers, restaurant owners, hotels, etc. There is also issued a "Track Report," showing shipments, arrivals and cars on track; this goes to a list of 80. Monthly arrival and unload figures are released, and a grand total covering the year. Reports for radio broadcasting are furnished the NAJ and KYW stations, and a development of this program will include the Drake Hotel, thereby enabling a larger number of persons to receive the reports by radio. Practically all the information furnished the KYW station is assembled in our Chicago office by telephone connection with other offices of the Bureau. A special leased telephone wire connects the various offices with Municipal Pier station of the Great Lakes (NAJ) to facilitate the transmission of reports for radio. Complaints of the Chicago trade are frequently heard on the score of poor grading and packing, and there is dissatisfaction with the large number and various types of containers used, especially for products arriving by boat.

4b. MEANING OF "DEMAND" PHRASES.

With this Division Letter there is being sent to each market and field station a copy of a sheet showing the meaning of "Demand" phrases. This can be inserted in the code book.

E. W. Stillwell,  
Specialist in Market News,  
(Fruits and Vegetables)

The editor found this clipping on his desk this morning:

- When the plumber makes a mistake, he charges twice for it.
- When a lawyer makes a mistake, he has a chance to try the case all over again.
- When a carpenter makes a mistake, it's just what he expected.
- When a doctor makes a mistake, he buries it.
- When a judge makes a mistake, it becomes a law of the land.
- When a preacher makes a mistake, nobody knows the difference,  
BUT
- When the editor makes a mistake, - GOOD NIGHT!

February 1, 1923.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK JANUARY 22-27, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)			Average Time			Total Number		
			Last Crop Stencil Completed	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crops Reports Only)	Crop Reports, Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted, Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>								
Boston -	Misc.	M	1:29	1:51	22	11	2,943	300
Philadelphia-	Misc.		1:00	1:26	26	12	4,830	355
New York -	Misc.	R	12:56	1:26	30	11	4,965	543
Washington -	Misc.		1:02	2:20	78	10	3,120	--
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>								
St. Louis -	Misc.	Q	12:01	12:20	19	12	3,575	260
Pittsburgh-	Misc.		12:19	12:46	25	10	3,143	49
Cincinnati -	Misc.	Q	2:00	2:29	29	10	4,275	650
Minneapolis -	Misc.		12:18	12:48	30	12	8,470	132
Kansas City -	Misc.	Q	12:18	1:01	43	10	4,750	115
Chicago -	Misc.		12:52	1:58	66	11	4,938	1,360
Washington -(Nat'l)BFHLMQR#6 P'nuts; Shp. Information						94	59,918	1,974
TOTAL			12:50#	1:27#	37#	203	104,927	5,738
" previous week			12:45#	1:29#	44#	192	96,904	5,677
<u>WESTERN OFFICE (Jan.15-20)</u>								
Los Angeles -Misc. LR#3			3:18	4:13	55	18	13,776	--
" " previous week			3:23	4:16	53	18	13,508	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date						783	405,993	23,281

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK JAN. 22-27, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
El Centro - L	12:38	2:23	2,733	390	13	--
Grand Rapids - R	12:03	1:43	7,002	1,310	--	--
Greeley - R	12:03	12:49	11,318	1,413	--	--
*Idaho Falls - R	1:55	2:30	2,455	818	2	--
*Presque Isle - R	2:02	3:11	4,291	1,422	1	--
Rochester - BFR	2:48	3:25	4,260	474	--	5
Sanford - H	3:17	5:03	3,181	498	--	--
*Spokane - B	1:50	2:30	3,250	925	--	30
Waupaca - R	12:08	2:08	5,224	871	7	--
TOTAL			1:25#	2:39#	44,614	
" previous week			1:19#	2:25#	39,437	
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date					170,589	

# Average Time. \*Reports 3 times a week.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS, SINCE JAN. 1 - 599,863.



FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE1c. RELATION OF FREEZING INJURY TO GRADE IN ONION INSPECTIONS.

Since onions may be frozen and thaw out without showing any effects of freezing injury, it is not possible to tell as definitely with them as with potatoes whether or not they were frozen at grading time. For this reason onions should not be thrown out of grade on account of freezing injury scattered through the sacks, unless the affected stock is so badly injured that the damage could not have occurred in its present location without damage to the remainder of the stock. When the injury does not affect more than 2 or 3 outer scales, it cannot be assumed that the onions were frozen before loading and they should not be added to the percentage of undergrade specimens. When some onions are badly injured and those adjacent show no injury, the damaged stock should be counted against grade as outlined in paragraph 287 I.H.B.

2c. USE OF THE TERM "GENERALLY".

Examination of inspection certificates shows that the term "generally" is used in a number of different ways and in some instances it is inconsistent with other statements on the certificate. Such expressions as "generally firm, many soft" are contradictory and should not be used. Although the term has not been given an arbitrary meaning it should not be used unless the condition is really general and in that case the exception would not amount to more than "few".

3c. ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING LETTERS OF TRANSMITTAL.

Do not list checks covering inspection before and after Jan. 15 on the same letter of transmittal except where a single check covers fees of this kind. See Division Letter of Jan. 25, par. 1c, for procedure when this is the case.

Fees for copies issued after Jan. 15 should be included in letters of transmittal covering fees for inspections after Jan. 15 regardless of the date of the certificate, copy of which is furnished. The issuing of this copy constitutes a new transaction entirely separate from the issuing of the original certificate. Full directions for handling fee bills for copies were given in the Jan. 25 issue of the Division Letter, par. 7c.

4c. MAKING EXTRA COPIES.

It is the practice in most branch offices to make one extra copy of all certificates. This is filed with the office copy and held, in the expectation that a request for an extra copy will be received. When this is done, the space for "Fee" should be left blank so that the \$1.00 copy fee charge may be inserted when the extra copy is mailed. This blank space can be secured by clipping off the corner of the carbon paper, as was suggested in connection with the shipper's copy in Par. 1c, Division Letter of Jan. 11.



5c. INSPECTION FOR CONDITION ONLY.

When a car is inspected at a receiving market for condition only, either because of reinspection or because the applicant requests examination for condition only, this should be noted in marking the car by writing "Cond." after the date.

There are a large number of inspections of this kind and such notation may save the inspector the trouble of wiring to the office where the original inspection was made.

6c. POTATO GRADING DEMONSTRATIONS IN WASHINGTON.

In a letter of Jan. 25, F.S. Kinsey wrote as follows concerning potato grading demonstrations in the vicinity of Spokane:

"Yesterday and today Mr. Bailey and I are helping the County Agent and the Farm Bureau secretary put on four potato-grade schools near this city. It is a move to form a pool and try to dispose of the potato crop of this county at a profit by keeping the culls at home for stock feed. At present the city is flooded with ungraded potatoes, which lower the price all around. These potatoes are to be disposed of in this city.----- Since writing the above, we have finished our four demonstrations, all out in the country, 12 to 15 miles in various directions. We had a total attendance of 125 men. Used the same methods as I did in Montana, giving those present a chance to try their hand.

"I leave Spokane tonight for Kennewick, at the lower end of the Yakima Valley. Tomorrow Mr. Brown (District Horticultural Inspector) and myself meet with the cooperative growers' association there, regarding the establishment of a grade for early potatoes. This will likely be the same as U. S. No. 1 for defects, with a lower minimum size. This will probably be made the State grade for early potatoes.

"I will be in Yakima next week. Later will make a trip to Walla Walla, where some apples are moving out of storage, and in two to five weeks up to Wenatchee, when Winesaps begin to get dead ripe."

7c. REMOVING SHIPPING-POINT NOTICE WHEN REINSPECTION REVERSES CERTIFICATE.

It has been suggested that all shipping-point notices and marks should be removed from car when shipping-point certificate has been reversed by reinspection. If the shipping-point notice is left in the car, other inspectors and receivers are likely to be misled.

Crayon marks put on the car at shipping point should also be rubbed out and the Inspector's own office number and the date should be substituted.

F. G. Robb,  
Specialist in Inspection.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 6  
February 8, 1923.  
(Contents Confidential)

1a. FEBRUARY PAYROLLS.

Because February contains only 28 days, the Section of Audits and Accounts requests that all field payrolls be in that office by Feb. 19.

2a. RECENT ISSUES OF WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS.

Attention is called to the following articles which appeared in recent issues of Weather, Crops and Markets:-

- Jan. 20, page 51, Exports of Onions from Spain.
- Jan. 27, page 72, Imperial Valley Lettuce Rolling in Good Volume.  
page 73, Seed Potato Crop in Oregon.
- Feb. 3, page 81, Description of Cincinnati Produce Markets.  
page 89, Honey Supplies Largely Disposed of by Producers.  
page 89, Monthly Review of Peanut Markets.  
page 90, Wisconsin Potatoes Selling Slowly at Low Prices.  
page 90, Idaho Shipping-Point Inspections.  
page 90, Summary of December Inspection Work.  
page 90, British Apple Market Prices.  
page 91, Arizona Cantaloupes Widely Distributed.  
page 93, Wyoming's Seed Potato Crop.  
page 102, Grecian Currant Trade.  
page 103, Estimated Farm Value of Apples and Turnips.  
page 104, Estimated Farm Value of Beans; Average Farm  
Prices of Cabbage, Onions, Beans, Peanuts and  
Turnips.  
page 105, Estimated Farm Value of Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes;  
Average Farm Prices of Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes  
and Apples.  
page 106, Per Capita Production of Potatoes, and Shipments.  
page 107, Percentage of Potatoes for Farm Use, for Sale,  
for Shipment, and Grading U. S. No. 1, U. S. No. 2  
and Culls. Production, Farm Value, etc. of  
California Fruit and Nut Crops.  
page 108, Sweet Potatoes in Storage on Dec. 15, 1922.  
Japanese Peanut Crop in 1922.

It is impossible to print the fruit and vegetable articles always in the regular Fruit and Vegetable section of the paper. For example: the Fruit and Vegetable page in issue of Jan. 27 was page 69, but the article on Imperial Valley lettuce had to be inserted on page 72, which contained the usual material from the Grain Division.

The weekly review is printed in every issue of Weather, Crops and Markets. The feature paragraph in the review on Jan. 20 related to potatoes; on Jan. 27 the feature was cabbage, and on Feb. 3 it was celery. This week it will be potatoes; Mr. Fiske has analyzed the recent report of potato stocks on hand Jan. 1.



3a. PUBLICATIONS ANNOUNCED IN DIVISION LETTER.

From time to time, mention is made in the Division Letter of new publications or special reports which have been issued. These notices are given chiefly for the information of employees outside of Washington, so that they may request copies of such bulletins or reports as are of interest to them. The Washington office does not distribute these special publications to all branch offices and field stations, unless definite statement to that effect is made in the announcement.

Following are examples of recent announcements of publications:-

In the D. L. for Nov. 9, page 377 - List of Workers in Subjects Pertaining to Agriculture, Parts 1 and 2. Yearbook Separates 867 and 869. Printed Index to Vol. I of Weather, Crops and Markets.

In the D. L. for Nov. 16, page 387 - List of Publications of this Bureau and List of Periodical Reports.

In the D. L. for Dec. 21, page 426 - Revised Table of Packages per Carload.

In the D. L. for Jan. 4, page 2 - Special issue of Weather, Crops and Markets, dated Dec. 23, 1922. Annual Report of Chief of Bureau.

In the D. L. for Jan. 16, page 23, - Annual Review of Fruit and Vegetable Markets.

In various issues of the Division Letter, latest summaries of field stations of the Market News Service are announced as soon as these summaries are released. The News Items mention any Department or Farmers' Bulletins issued by the F. & V. Division.

The reason that these documents have not been distributed to all technical employees outside of Washington (unless such general distribution has been definitely announced) is that not ALL employees may be interested in them. If you are interested, you are expected to request such documents as you desire. The request can be brief and may be worded somewhat as follows:

(Date)

Washington Office,  
Fruit & Vegetable Division.

Please send me a copy of the Annual Report of  
the Chief.

(Your signature)

With the Division Letter for Jan. 4, a mimeographed index to Weather, Crops and Markets for Dec. 23, 1922, was distributed to everybody. This was done so that all could see at a glance the valuable contents of that special issue of Weather, Crops and Markets and so that each person could readily locate material in that special paper. After reading the index, it was expected that all employees desiring a personal copy of Weather, Crops and Markets for Dec. 23 would request a copy from the Washington office. It was not stated in the announcement that copies would be sent (without request) to all employees. To have made such general distribution of that 43-page paper would have meant that probably 50 copies would have been sent to employees who had expressed no personal interest in that issue of Weather, Crops and Markets and who may have had no desire to receive it.

In the future, when new publications are announced, it is up to YOU to request a copy from Washington, if you desire it, - unless the announcement plainly states that copies are being sent to all offices.



4a. NORTHWEST APPLE PRODUCTION COST INCREASED THIS SEASON.

Mrs. L. B. Gerry, of the Spokane office, submitted the next two items, which were clipped from newspapers in the Northwest:-

Wenatchee, Wash., Jan. 20, 1923.

According to figures compiled by District Horticultural Inspector Frank C. Nielson for incorporation in his annual report, ready in a short time, the cost of production of apples in this district was 5 cents higher/ <sup>than</sup> in 1922 in the previous season.

Slightly smaller labor and other costs failed to balance the drop in yield in 1922, and the cost of producing a box of apples, \$1.30 in 1921, rose to \$1.35 in 1922.

The yield per acre in 1922 was 312 boxes according to the inspector's figures. The yield in 1921 was 348 boxes per acre. Had the yields of 1921 and 1922 been more nearly the same, the production cost in 1922 would have been less than in the previous year.

All things considered, -such as pruning, irrigation costs, spraying, material costs, taxes, equipment, deterioration, packing expenses, hauling and the many other items that enter into a determination of a per-box expense, - show the total of general expense to have been \$.808 per box; labor \$.34 per box and materials \$.208 per box, making a total of \$1.35 plus.

Mr. Nielson points out that growers must cut down the cost of production.

5a. NEW LOADING STATION FOR OREGON BROCCOLI.

The town of Umpqua, referred to in the following item, is about 15 miles north of Roseburg, Oregon, in the section producing broccoli:

Roseburg, Oregon, Jan. 23, 1923.

The Umpqua Broccoli Exchange has just completed its new loading station. The improved facilities are expected to be of considerable advantage to buyers during the coming season. The new plant adjoins the local ice factory, so that no time will be lost in waiting for the ice to be delivered when used inside the car proper.

Weather conditions during the Fall and Winter have been unusually favorable to the broccoli crop, which is becoming of great importance in this territory. Approximately 500-600 acres are devoted to the crop this season and from present indications there will be 150-200 cars.

6a. EFFECTS OF FROST IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AND TEXAS.

A wire from Mr. Hall at El Centro states that the official temperature at Brawley on night of Feb. 4 was 32° with unofficial temperatures of 29° to 32° reported at other points in Imperial Valley. He reports further: "This is coldest this year, although frost occurred on at least three previous nights, the first occurring Jan. 4. Each frost injured peas and tomatoes, but last night's (Feb. 4) loss greatest. Damage to tomatoes estimated 10%; many young plants poorly protected killed but damage to old plants very light. Peas believed 35% loss; many patches entire loss. Many patches lettuce outer leaves injured but percentage actual loss negligible. Damage to cantaloupes very slight."

(Continued on next page)



February 8, 1923.

Mr. Harris at Los Angeles also wires on Feb. 5 as follows: "No commercial crop damage by recent frosts. Peas and tomatoes grown for local consumption received slight damage. Lettuce and cauliflower not injured. Citrus fruits protected by smudging and no injury. Peas arriving from Imperial Valley showing frost damage. Young tomato plants there injured slightly. Weather Bureau records show lowest point reached Imperial Valley 29°; San Diego district 32°; Los Angeles and Orange Counties 29° to 33°."

Mr. J. A. Hunter, of the Austin, Texas, office wired on Feb. 5: "Laredo this morning clear; no frost Saturday night. Sunday cloudy, drizzling rain, sleeting, freezing during night, with reported temperature 2° or 3° below freezing. Too early to express opinion concerning damage but probably very light if any on spinach and cabbage. Nothing serious on onion crop unless severe freeze tonight which is not probable."

The next day, Mr. Hunter wired concerning conditions around Austin: "Snow Monday morning; cloudy, warmer in afternoon; night clear. Temperature this morning five o'clock 19°. Fields still covered with snow. Some growers estimate will be Friday or Saturday before conditions permit cutting spinach. Too early ascertain effects of weather; not believed detrimental."

#### NEWS ITEMS.

After attending the watermelon distributors' meeting at Ocala, Mr. Sherman expects to spend a few days at Sanford and other points in Florida, conferring with the five members of this Division who are conducting investigations or market news work in that State. He hopes to reach Raleigh, N.C., by Feb. 16.

F. Earl Parsons, of Richmond, Va., was a visitor to the Washington office the early part of this week.

On Wednesday, Mr. Robb accompanied Mr. Parsons to Charles Town, W.Va., where they met with the Legislative Committee of the State Horticultural Society in session at the County Court House. This meeting was attended by representatives from Maryland, also, and was for the purpose of securing uniformity in apple-grading laws for the three States, West Virginia, Virginia and Maryland. The Legislative Committee finally decided to recommend that West Virginia adopt the barreled-apple grades of the Federal Dept. of Agriculture, but that the use of these grades be optional with growers and shippers. The committee also recommended the adoption of an amendment to the grading law which provides an appropriation of \$10,000 and a revolving fund of fees collected for the support of a joint Federal<sup>and</sup> State shipping-point inspection service. Mr. Robb states that the court room in which the meeting was held is the one in which John Brown was tried and condemned in 1859, just prior to the Civil War and while that territory was still a part of Virginia. It will be remembered that John Brown and his associates had attacked and captured the Federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, which was later regained by United States troops under the command of Robert E. Lee.

H. W. Samson, who is in St. Louis this week, will attend the 16th annual Farmers' Week at the State Agricultural College, Ithaca, N.Y., on Feb. 14, and will give an address on: "Does It Pay to Grade Potatoes and other Vegetables?"

E. E. Conklin, Jr., expects to be at Columbus Feb. 9 and 10; at Kenton, Ohio, on the 12th; McGuffey, Ohio, on the 13th; Nappanee, Ind., on the 14th and 15th; Walkerton, Ind., on the 16th and 17th, and in care of our office at Grand Rapids, Mich., by the 19th.



February 8, 1923.

NEWS ITEMS (Continued)

Several Inspectors have been given temporary assignments recently, to assist in offices where there has been an unusual rush of work or where the regular Inspector is sick. M. L. Henry has gone from Pittsburgh to New York and will probably remain there until the return of H. C. Miller from Maine. S. W. Russell, cooperative Inspector in Pennsylvania, has gone from Harrisburg to Pittsburgh, and will assist with the work in that city, thereby also acquiring additional training in inspection service. S. F. Shreve went from Baltimore to Philadelphia about Feb. 2 and was expected to remain there until the middle of this week. L. D. Mills, of the Wilkes-Barre office, is down with pneumonia; his work is being handled for the present by W. G. Lynn, of Harrisburg. N. U. Slanpied is looking after the Harrisburg work.

We are glad to report the return to duty of L. H. Martin, of the Washington office of the Inspection Service. He has been absent for a month on account of a serious case of the grippe.

Please add to the Inspectors' address list, issued on Jan. 10, the residence address and phone number of Earl Wilson, at Los Angeles:- 705 West 30th St.; phone 20282.

A CORRECTION: All men who received last week the page for the Code Book, giving definitions of "Demand" phrases, are requested to change the word "of" to "or" in second line of the definition of "Demand Moderate." This will make the closing words of the sentence read: "without excitement or lagging."

(Continued from Page 60)

6b. SUMMARY OF NORTH CAROLINA PEACH DEAL.

Within the past few days there has been issued a Summary of the Sandhill Section, North Carolina, Peach Deal, 1922. In view of the fact that Mr. Stillwell assisted H. S. Stiles in establishing this new field station at Aberdeen, N. C., last July, his name appears with Mr. Stiles' as joint author of this summary.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE
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1b. APPLE MARKET IN KANSAS CITY.

In response to a recent inquiry as to why the Kansas City apple market has been so steady, R. S. Lombard wrote the following interesting letter on Feb. 2:

"I have taken up the matter of apple prices with a number of the trade and they seem to be pretty much of the same opinion. In the first place, most of them took quite a trimming on apples last year, so did not put in the stock of western apples this year that is usual. One firm says they stored about 15 cars this year against 50-150 other years. Another house did not store nearly as many as usual. When it comes to midwestern apples in barrels, you find that practically every firm has some, and they can get as many more as they want at about the same price at which apples could be bought several months ago, or possibly a little less. This has made local apples plentiful and cheap.

"Probably another reason for a steadiness in the market is the fact that there have not been as many 'tramp' cars come into the market as usual. These cars always weaken the market. Then, to top it all, we have had a very open winter, with high temperatures, which has prevented apples in common storage from keeping as well as they should.

"To sum up the factors responsible for such a steady apple market, I should say the factors keeping prices up were as follows:

1. Limited supply of western storage stock,
2. Inability to lower prices on good stock without loss,
3. Fewer 'tramp' cars arriving,

while the factors which tend to weaken the market are:

1. Large supply of local and midwestern apples,
2. Large amount ordinary quality midwestern apples,
3. Open winter, high temperatures,
4. Very limited amount of trading; no big deals.

"In the place of a winter rise in prices, dealers feel that there may be a drop in prices and some feel that, if a drop starts, the whole market will go to pieces in a flash. If some of the factors which are holding the market up should be reversed, - such as many 'tramps' arriving, or a decided drop in f.o.b. prices, enabling purchase at lower figure with corresponding resale at less money but still at a profit, - they look for much lower prices on western boxes; also probably some weakening in prices of midwestern stock.

"From all I can learn, the number of apples now held in cold storage by Kansas City dealers is very small. I know that many of them are cleaning up lots, and will depend upon buying for their future needs. This may have the effect of holding the market up in the future, but probably this local condition will be offset by the large amount of midwestern stock available.

"It is really hard to say just what will be the outcome of the situation, but I am watching it with a great deal of interest and will do my best to make my reports cover the actual market condition at all times. I have been wondering why St. Louis does not quote on boxed apples and would be glad to see an article in the Division Letter regarding the apple situation there. I also note that Chicago seems to be quoting a steady market on apples and am wondering if they are facing the same situation as Kansas City."



2b. INTERESTING ITEMS FROM SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS:

CINCINNATI office has added the Crosley Mfg. Co. (Cincinnati) to its daily broadcasting program. Previous broadcasting schedules are still in effect with the Cino Radio Mfg. Co., and the Precision Equipment Co. The Crosley Company broadcasts daily flashes of the Chicago and New York butter and egg markets, which are received over the leased wire at Cincinnati. The other two radio stations broadcast a review of the local market about noon each day and the closing livestock market of St. Louis and Chicago in the evening. \*\*\*\* Recently, a movement was under way to centralize the offices of the larger produce jobbers and commission merchants in one office building. They have succeeded in securing consent of the representative commission men, and plans are now under consideration for the erection of an office building within easy reach of all railroad yards. They have hinted at the desirability of having this Bureau locate its offices in the proposed central building.

NEW YORK gives a special messenger service to 59 members of the local trade who are in immediate need of the Miscellaneous Report on the day of issue. This service is thoroughly justified in view of the splendid co-operation extended by the trade. The special peach and cantaloupe reports, which are issued in season, are likewise given to this list on account of the great interest in other markets on these two commodities. \*\*\*\* Our office cooperates regularly with the New York State Department, giving them considerable information which they could not secure otherwise. Occasionally, our office calls on the State office in New York City for information of a particularly local character. For some time, we have been cooperating with the Port of New York authorities, furnishing considerable statistical data of value to them in their studies. Occasionally, some of the municipal agencies, such as the Board of Health and City Dept. of Markets, call on our New York office for statistical and price information which is available only in our office. A number of the railroads in New York as well as other cities also request reports from time to time on prices of various commodities throughout the year. \*\*\*\* Practically all the large dealers maintain files of the market reports in New York and call for copies promptly, if they are not received. A great many of the dealers also telephone daily for shipment information and local price information which is wired by them to shippers throughout the country. As an example of the value of the market reports, when the New York mailing list was circularized early in December, about 100 unsolicited testimonials were received from growers, shippers and dealers, indicating in no uncertain language how greatly they value the daily bulletins.

KANSAS CITY handles all the relay work to and from Fort Worth and Austin, since the opening of these Texas offices. Because the Fort Worth office has had no clerical help, it has been necessary to send and receive all messages in English. This requires all coding and decoding of reports from or for Texas to be done in the Kansas City office, greatly increasing the work at that station. An additional telegraph operator also had to be appointed to handle the larger number of messages. In addition to the fruit and vegetable reports, live stock and meat news, dairy reports and the weekly review are wired to Fort Worth and Austin. \*\*\*\*\* Kansas City issues semi-monthly reports on honey and beeswax to a list of 1,675 names. Two pages of this special report are transmitted from Washington by leased wire and usually one or two pages are received (in advance) by mail, to be combined with the telegraphic information.



3b. "WHITE POTATO CROP 1922, WITH COMPARISONS."

A release under the above caption, dated Dec. 30, was mailed on Saturday to all field and market stations. This was released by the Division of Crop and Live Stock Estimates on Dec. 30 but, through an oversight, did not come to our attention until last Friday. Some of our field station men obtained a copy of it in some manner and it has been used by at least two of them. Much interesting and valuable information is contained in this release and we regret that its transmission to market and field stations has been so long delayed. Practically all crop estimate data have been going forward immediately upon their release to our men, and this is the only one issued which has not been handled in this manner.

"Stocks of Potatoes on Hand Jan. 1" was mailed to all stations last Saturday, as soon as received from the Division of Crop Estimates.

4b. POTATO SITUATION IN MAINE.

Writing under date of Jan. 27, J. D. Snow, of the Presque Isle field station, gives the following information concerning the situation in Maine:-

"As I stated in my letter of Jan. 24, the shippers figure that 18,000-20,000 cars of potatoes will be shipped from Maine this season (compared with 38,000 last season). My records show that Maine has shipped 12,318 cars to date, leaving a probable movement of 6,000-8,000 cars.

"Heavy snow and cold weather are combining to hinder the return of lined cars by railroads to the shippers. Maine has been averaging around 700 cars a week, but due to the slow return of cars moved only 471 the week ending Jan. 20, and I doubt if 600 cars are shipped this week. (Actual reports show 573 cars.) The rate of movement of the remainder of the crop this season is a matter that one can only guess at now. If the movement averages 700 cars or better a week, it seems as though you could plan on closing this office Apr. 1, or Mar. 15. Last year they shipped 4,000 cars after May 15, but of course it is a different story this season and I doubt if as many growers hold their stock. Most shipments are from storage at present, as the roads are too drifted to haul over."

5b. ANNUAL RECAPITULATION OF UNLOADS IN ST. LOUIS.

V. G. Gibson, in charge of the Market News office at St. Louis, has just published a very interesting recapitulation of unloads on that market for the year 1922, with comparative figures for 1921. Parallel columns for the two years show the comparative unloads. Headings across the top of one of the tables show the different commodities, while the left-margin headings show the States of origin. A comparison is also made between receipts, unloads and shipments. The most striking feature of the report is a chart devoted to each product, showing the months during which that commodity was received on the St. Louis market from each of the several States. The "X" on the typewrite has been utilized to represent bars on these commodity charts, with very good effect. A sample of two of the lines, or bars, on these charts is given below:

APPLES:

State	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Wash.	:XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXX	:F	:	:	S:XXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX		
Illinois	:	:	:	:	:	S:XXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXX
	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

S- Start

F- Finish

See also Par. 6b on Page 57  
and Par. 7b on Page 64.

E. W. Stillwell  
Specialist in Market News,  
(Fruits and Vegetables)



February 8, 1923.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK JAN. 29-FEB. 3, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Completed	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted, & Delivered
<b>EASTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Philadelphia-Misc.	12:54	1:20	26	11	4,814	355
New York - Misc. R	12:53	1:21	28	11	5,005	1,516
Boston - Misc. M	1:20	1:51	31	11	2,977	300
Washington - Misc.	12:55	2:05	70	10	3,125	--
<b>WESTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Kansas City-Misc. Q Honey	12:14	12:41	27	10	6,385	125
St. Louis - Misc. Q	12:46	1:13	27	12	3,555	275
Minneapolis-Misc.	12:19	12:47	28	12	8,520	132
Cincinnati - Misc. Q	2:00	2:31	31	10	4,265	650
Pittsburgh - Misc.	12:29	1:07	38	10	3,154	49
Chicago - Misc.	12:54	2:18	34	11	5,014	1,360
Washington -(Nat'l) BFFILMQR#6 Honey P'nuts Snip. Infr.				96	44,338	1,939
<b>TOTAL</b>	12:52#	1:31#	33#	204	91,152	6,701
" previous week	12:50#	1:27#	37#	203	104,927	5,738
<b>WESTERN OFFICE (Jan. 22-27)</b>						
Los Angeles-Misc. LR#3	3:49	4:32	43	18	13,760	--
" " previous week	3:18	4:13	55	18	13,776	--
<b>TOTAL JAN. 1 to date</b>				1,005	510,905	29,932

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS JAN. 29-FEB. 3, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
El Centro -	L	12:00	2:21	2,781	399	3	--
Grand Rapids -	R	11:58	1:41	8,260	1,310	--	--
Greeley -	R	11:47	12:19	6,486	1,074	--	24
*Idaho Falls -	R	2:13	2:48	2,475	825	1	--
*Presque Isle -	R	2:17	3:06	5,780	1,437	1	--
Rochester -	BFR	2:27	3:40	3,054	494	4	--
Sanford -	H	2:45	4:43	3,206	492	--	1
*Spokane -	B	1:23	2:47	2,708	798	--	14
Waupaca -	R	12:11	2:09	6,018	1,003	15	--
<b>TOTAL</b>		1:13#	2:37#	40,768			
" previous week		1:25#	2:39#	44,614			
<b>TOTAL JAN. 1 to date</b>				211,357			

# Average time. \*Reports 3 times a week.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 752,244.



FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE
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1c. THE NEW STRAIN OF FLORIDA CELERY.

Mr. Bier has given an interesting account of the new strain of Florida celery that has caused many complaints on account of quality.

The name of this variety is "Improved Paris Golden." It is a selected strain of Golden Self-Blanching which was developed in an effort to get a strain with a longer rib. It grows about 6 to 8 inches taller than the older strains of the same variety but, on account of the method of planting and handling adopted by most growers, the heart development has been reduced. Mr. Bier's letter states further:-

"It has been found that, where the crop is properly handled by wider spacing in and between rows, the stalks become stockier. The tallness of the celery has caused many growers to begin papering (blanching process) two weeks before celery was at the proper stage for this operation. Naturally, the result has been the shipment of immature celery which becomes limp and is unfit for consumption when it reaches the market.

"The growers are finding that, where the crop is properly handled, the heart develops, the outer stems are firmer, and the celery is desirable for shipment. The market makes no complaint against this strain where it has been properly handled."

2c. PUT AMOUNT OF FEE ON ALL WASHINGTON COPIES.

A number of copies of certificates have been received which did not bear the amount of the fee. Be sure that the copy of certificate sent to Audits and Accounts has on it the amount of the fee. This is necessary in order that proper entry may be made of the amount due from the applicant for each inspection.

3c. USE F.P.I.-8.

Mr. Sherman has called attention to the need of informing snippers, carriers and receivers of the nature of the Food Products Inspection Service.

F.P.I.-8 is intended for this purpose. A number of copies have been mailed to each office. One of these should be enclosed with each certificate or copy of certificate which is mailed to any party who may not already be familiar with the Inspection Service. Every new customer and every shipper who receives a copy of a certificate should have a copy of F.P.I.-8. Please use these circulars freely, especially if there is any doubt in your mind as to the familiarity of any members of the trade, with whom you may come into contact, with the nature of our service. Railroad agents and claim agents of all railroads should receive copies of this circular. All brokers in your city should be supplied.

This should be given particular attention by our smaller offices which are not working up to their full capacity. Neighboring cities, from which requests are received only occasionally, should be kept informed regarding the service.

It is possible that further efforts will be put forth in the near future to advertise the service. In the meantime, use F.P.I.-8 on every occasion possible. If your supply is exhausted, let us know and more will be mailed you.



4c. TERMS TO USE IN DESCRIBING CELERY.

The following definitions of celery terms are given in order that all Inspectors may use the same expressions on celery certificates:

"Stalk" means the individual plant.

"Bunch" means a group of stalks, tied into one lot.

"Branch" means the leaf of a stalk and consists of the edible stem-like portion and the tops or leaf blade.

"Pithy" means that the branches have an open texture, with air spaces in the central portion.

"Seed stems" mean those stalks which have seed stems showing, or in which the formation of seed stems has plainly begun.

"Well-trimmed" means that the outside coarse and damaged branches have been removed and the portion of the root formation attached to the stalks is not more than three inches in length.

5c. LEAVE CARS IN GOOD CONDITION.

Complaint has been received again that Inspectors do not always leave cars in good condition. This is very important. Read carefully Inspector's Handbook Par. 28, 29 and 30, and take a little extra time, if necessary, in order to leave the car in such shape that a buyer on entering will not be prejudiced against the load on account of your inspection.

As a matter of self-protection, do not fail to note on your certificate under CONDITION OF LOAD AND CONTAINERS the number of open, broken or otherwise disarranged packages observed when you enter the car. The fact that some packages have been opened and left in bad condition does not justify you in leaving others in similar condition.

Put yourself in the position of a salesman trying to sell the car in question, and you surely will use every effort to leave the load in presentable condition.

6c. USE CARE IN REPORTING MATURITY OF APPLES.

There seems to be considerable lack of uniformity in judging and reporting maturity of apples. In some instances, lots have been reported "ripe" or "firm to ripe" and internal breakdown has also been reported on the same certificate. In such cases, it would seem that some of the stock must have been dead ripe, as internal breakdown is preceded by a dead ripe condition. On account of the general ripe condition of apples in the Northwest this year, maturity has probably caused more inspections than decay, freezing injury, or any other factor. It is important, therefore, that all Inspectors be very careful in describing any lot of apples.

It is possible for too much reliance to be placed in the "feel" of an apple, unless an Inspector is quite familiar with the normal firmness of the flesh of that particular variety. Taste is the best criterion of maturity and should be used to check up indications given by the ground color and firmness. Newtowns, Winesaps, Arkansas Blacks, and even Spitzenburgs may feel firm to the touch, when actually ripe and in prime eating condition. These same varieties may be dead ripe and still not feel soft or mellow. Our terms for describing maturity are quite general and it is frequently desirable to combine them with other descriptive terms, such as "crisp," "juicy," "mealy," "mellow," etc, which will more accurately describe the condition.



February 3, 1923.

7c. PROPER ADDRESS FOR TRANSMITTING CHECKS.

Be sure that your checks are addressed to "Disbursing Clerk, U. S. Department of Agriculture." The Disbursing Clerk is a Departmental officer, not a Bureau officer. Some offices have been addressing their checks to "Disbursing Clerk, Bureau of Agricultural Economics." This has delayed the checks in reaching the proper office.

8c. TERMS TO USE IN DESCRIBING CAULIFLOWER.

A photographic print showing compact, slightly-spread and badly-spread heads of cauliflower is being mailed all Inspectors. We hope to have similar prints made, which will illustrate "ricey" and fuzzy heads. All such materials should be kept with the cauliflower section of the Inspector's Handbook, which will soon be issued. The definitions of terms used in describing compactness of cauliflower heads are given here, in order that all Inspectors may refresh their memory and may use them to describe the same condition. Spreading is much more common in distant receiving markets than fuzziness and "riceyness," while the latter conditions are more common at shipping points and in the markets closer to producing sections.

Compact - when the flower clusters are closely united and the head feels solid.

Fuzzy - when the stems (pedicels) of the individual flowers begin to elongate, giving the surface of the head a velvety or hairy appearance.

"Ricey" - when the stems of the flower clusters have started to elongate, causing an uneven or rough surface, sometimes with a granular appearance.

Slightly-spread - when the growth of the stems has caused a slight separation of the clusters.

Badly-spread - when the clusters are widely separated and the head has a loose, open texture.

9c. MATERIAL BEING SENT TO INSPECTORS.

Copies of photographic prints illustrating the spreading of cauliflower heads and copies of the following bulletins are being mailed to all offices: Department Bulletin 1021: "Group Classification and Varietal Description of American Varieties of Sweet Potatoes."

Department Bulletin 1104: "Internal Browning of the Yellow Newtown Apple."

Department Bulletin 1109: "Sales Methods and Policies of a Growers' National Marketing Agency." (Bulletin on cranberries.)

Special Publication No. 31, California Dept. of Agriculture: "Growing, Harvesting and Marketing California Bermuda Onions."

On account of the limited supply, it was impossible to furnish the bulletin on "Growing, Harvesting and Marketing California Bermuda Onions" to Navy inspectors or those doing Market News work. When a second supply of this publication is received, we will send it to those omitted at this time.

F. G. Robb,

Specialist in Inspection.

7b. CABBAGE MARKET PREFERENCES.

(Mark reply: "For Mr. Fiske")

Market stations are requested to report briefly to the Washington office on the local demand, season, sources, uses and relative price of red and Savoy cabbage; also any market preferences for other special types or varieties. These data are needed for a bulletin on cabbage.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 7

February 15, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. FEDERAL GRADES ADVERTISED IN FLORIDA.

On February 9, C. W. Hauck wrote the following letter to Mr. Samson:

"The South Florida Fair closes tomorrow night. The following week I shall be in Plant City every day with the Plant City Growers Association, and from the 19th to the 24th in Bradentown. I have planned a joint display at the fair there with Mr. Briggs, the county agent.

"The fair at Tampa has proved to be a much more elaborate affair than I expected. We have had good crowds every day except last Tuesday when it rained, and there has been a great deal of interest displayed in my exhibit. I used the pictures as a background and on a long table in front placed small heaps of produce, comparing ungraded stock with U. S. No. 1 stock. I had 1,000 of the enclosed circulars printed and distributed them to all who were interested."

This circular is printed on official letter-heads of the Bureau and reads as follows:

WHY is careful and uniform grading so important in the successful marketing of farm crops?

BECAUSE

1. Higher returns depend largely upon better grading and packing.
2. Uniformly good quality stimulates increased consumption and demand.
3. The brand or label that always represents uniformly good quality reaps the benefit.
4. High standards consistently adhered to build good will and create confidence.
5. Standard grades properly used promote honesty and fair dealing and discourage the careless and unscrupulous packer.
6. They enable the grower to realize a premium for care, honesty and good judgment.
7. They provide a common language with which to describe quality, condition, maturity, size and all the factors that go to make up the value of a given shipment.
8. They serve as a fair and equitable basis for contracts, inspections and adjustment of claims.

The U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics (formerly the Bureau of Markets) has formulated standard grades for Banded Apples, Asparagus, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Celery, Cucumbers, Head Lettuce, Bermuda Onions, Northern-grown Onions, Peaches, Peanuts, Potatoes, Strawberries, Sweet Potatoes, and Tomatoes. The use of these grades is recommended. The Bureau strongly urges their adoption by growers and shippers of fruits and vegetables, and to assist in promoting their use in maintaining a representative in Florida during the next two or three months. For further information address

CHAS. W. HAUCK,

Investigator in Marketing,  
413 South Florida Ave.,  
Lakeland, Fla.



2a. FOLLOW UP ORDERS FOR SUPPLIES.

When branch offices or field men place orders for supplies or equipment if a copy of the order is not received back from Washington within a reasonable time indicating that action has been taken by this office, such order should be followed up by calling the matter to our attention. Two recent instances have shown the desirability of this practice: In one case the order evidently never was received in the Washington office.

It may properly be assumed that this office will take prompt and adequate action on all orders for supplies, but accidents do happen and it would seem to be only reasonable precaution for branch offices to check over their pending orders.

2a. DAMAGE IN TEXAS FROM SEVERE WEATHER.

The following wire was received from Mr. J. A. Hunter, of the Austin office, early this morning. The message refers strictly to the Laredo district.

Austin, Texas, Feb. 14, 1925.

Detail of freeze-damage survey: Injury to marketable spinach inconsequential; only slight stripping necessary for first-class quality. Crop due to mature in two weeks will outgrow slight damage. Young crop due in a month practically uninjured. Damage to cabbage inconsequential. Lettuce practically total loss, but much acreage had been harvested. Crop due in thirty days will outgrow damage. Early plantings of Bermuda onions, which were bulbing and which are one-third total crop, materially damaged. Full maturity set back two weeks. Shipments probably will begin last week of March, to make early markets. Most potential effect of weather will be reduction of yield and poorer quality, due to development of seed stems, splits, and doubles, stiff necks and thin necks. Intermediate plantings and late plantings not seriously affected, with possible exception of development of a small percentage of seed stems and doubles in intermediate crop.

A later wire, sent from Austin this morning, states:

Rio Grande Valley lettuce, tomatoes and tender vegetables practically total loss, necessitating replanting. Citrus mostly reported unharmed but believed will show some damage later, as smudge pots not used generously. Willacy County reports fruit damage 25 per cent. Important strawberry acreage near Houston considerably damaged; less than half protected by straw. Low temperature Corpus Christi was 23; no damage reported yet. East Texas fruit crop probably saved but set back by temperature of 20 degrees. Buds were beginning to swell from warm January weather.

Mr. Sperle, of the field force of the Division of Crop and Live Stock Estimates, recently wired as follows concerning damage in Imperial Valley:-

"Imperial County reports frost damage to first setting of peas 75%, with later settings damaged 25%; tomatoes, damage 10%-15%."

BE SURE THAT EVERY EMPLOYEE IN YOUR OFFICE  
HAS A CHANCE TO READ THE DIVISION LETTER.



February 15, 1923.

4a. RADIOPHONE REPORTS NOW BEING BROADCAST DIRECTLY FROM WASHINGTON OFFICE.

Up to the present time, radiophone reports of the markets have been broadcast from the Post Office station (WEX) in Washington. Beginning this morning, however, these reports are being spoken directly from the office of the Radio Section of the Division of Information in this Bureau. J. C. Gilbe who is directly in charge of this work, personally handled most of the broadcasting today, speaking over a telephone line from the 7th floor of the Bieh Building (in which the F. & V. offices also are located) to the transmitting station at Arlington, Va., thus reaching by "remote control" the ears of all persons within a 300-mile radius who may have been listening-in.

Fruit and vegetable shipments and shipping-point information will be broadcast daily at 10:25 A. M. and the city market reports at 1:45 P. M. If you or your friends have a receiving set, tune in and see how well you can hear the voice speaking from the local office in Washington. We will be interested to learn whether or not these reports can be heard distinctly. A complete schedule of this new work was published in The Bureau News and in Marketing Activities earlier this week.

NEWS ITEMS.

Next Thursday, Feb. 22, will be observed as a holiday in Washington and in all offices outside of Washington.

Mr. Sherman is now on his way northward from Florida. He is expected back at his desk in Washington by Monday, Feb. 19.

Admer D. Miller terminated his services in Washington last night, to accept his new position in New York City. He will be glad to welcome any employees of the F. & V. Division at his office with the Fruit Auction Co. on the 8th floor of the Fruit Trade Building, 204 Franklin St.

The name of F. M. Coray should be cancelled under Chicago on the list of Inspectors. His resignation was effective Feb. 12.

On his recent trip to the peanut section of Virginia, H. J. Clay visited Norfolk, Suffolk, Petersburg and Franklin. Photographs were secured of different operations in peanut cleaning and shelling factories, and of the processes in a peanut butter and salting factory. Mr. Clay also discussed the present market situation with peanut shippers.

C. W. Hauck, who is working at Plant City and vicinity this week, advises that the Plant City Growers Association has adopted for use this season the recommended Federal grades for strawberries.

The itinerary of E. E. Conklin, published in the last Division Letter, is being followed in the order stated but is running four days behind the schedule previously announced.

For some time, all mail or other communications for O. D. Miller can be addressed to Ruskin, Fla. He will be traveling to a considerable extent and mail will reach him most promptly through his Ruskin address.

V. D. Callahan, who has been in charge of the Spokane office this winter, has completed his last checking trip in the Northwest producing sections and will leave tonight for Chicago, where he will familiarize himself with the inspection work during the next few weeks. Mrs. L. B. Gerry will continue to issue the apple reports from Spokane until about March 1.

After assisting with the work in Philadelphia for several days, Inspector Shreve returned to his headquarters at Baltimore on Tuesday.



NEWS ITEMS (Continued)

M. A. Arenz, in charge of the Inspection office at Milwaukee, has been authorized to employ temporary stenographic help on account of the accumulated certificate-writing in that office.

Eric S. Al-Greene, clerk in the Chicago Market News station since last fall, has resigned effective Feb. 24.

In connection with his trip to Cornell University this week, Mr. Samson will visit the New York office of the F. & V. Division. He expects to return to Washington on Friday.

W. C. Hackleman left on Tuesday for Philadelphia and New York, where he will confer with inspectors for a few days.

T. L. Kelly, of the Philadelphia office, appeared in local court this week to testify regarding an inspection made by him in 1920 while working on city market inspections.

Miss Dena Hammer was obliged to go to a Washington hospital for an operation on her nose and probably will be absent two weeks. Miss May Eldridge also will be absent for 10 days or more on account of sickness.

As the old saying goes: "Two wrongs never make a right." In attempting to correct line 3 on the stencil for page 55 of the last Division Letter, the word "than" was inserted in the wrong place. The sentence should read: "5 cents higher in 1922 than in the previous season." On the second line of the same page, the word "nest" was intended for "next."

Note that the New York staff has now begun inspection work in behalf of Government hospitals in the metropolis. See footnote under the tabulation of Navy and Marine Corps inspections on page 76.

Last spring, Henry Hawxhurst became associated with the section handling reports of holdings in cold storage. He had previously served in the F. & V. Division since 1915. Recently he transferred to Mr. Flohr's section, in Room 316 Bieber Bldg., and is now tabulating market statistics on grain, etc.



February 15, 1923.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. AN APPLICATION FOR MARKET NEWS REPORTS.

A correspondent in Oklahoma recently advised that he had been reading "Successful Farming" and noticed that it praises the Market News Service of this Bureau. He desired to know all about this service, what it is, how often it is published, and what it costs per year. This application is of special interest in view of the fact that the News Service on fruits and vegetables has been in operation for more than 8 years. The article to which the writer referred appears on the fifth page of "Successful Farming" for February and shows why farmers oppose the proposed transfer of the Federal "Bureau of Markets" from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of Commerce.

2b. NEW STRAIN OF FLORIDA CELERY.

In the Division Letter for Feb. 8, Par. 1c, there was quoted a letter from Mr. Bier, giving additional information regarding the new strain of celery which is being shipped from Florida this year.

Present instructions, issued several weeks ago, are that this type of celery shall be quoted as "French Strain." Mr. W. A. Wheeler, in charge of the Hay, Feed and Seed work in this Bureau, points out the fact that this term may be misleading because the best seed for the Golden Self-blanching variety of which this new type appears to be a strain, is normally imported from France. The term "French Strain" might indicate to the uninitiated that celery grown from French seed was inferior, although the fact is that French celery seed always sells at a considerable premium above domestic seed.

Mr. Bier states that this new type is known as the "Improved Paris Golden." A survey of seed catalogues shows a wide variance in the use of the term "Paris Golden," and some of the larger seedsmen say that the Golden Self-blanching and Paris Golden varieties are synonymous. Because of this fact, to call this new variety the "Improved Paris Golden," might mean but little.

It is now believed that the best term to use is "New French Strain." This probably will describe it as accurately as any other term, because it is a strain of the Golden Self-blanching variety produced in France and is relatively a "newcomer" in commercial production. Make this change in your code book immediately upon receipt of this Division Letter, and hereafter let "AC" stand for "New French Strain" on the "MA" (Celery) page of code.

3b. IMPORTANT RELEASE ON SOUTHERN TRUCK CROPS.

On Feb. 13, the Division of Crop and Live Stock Estimates released important forecasts of the acreage and production of early cabbage, celery, lettuce, potatoes, strawberries and tomatoes. The Feb. 1 condition of a number of truck crops also was published. The most important of these figures were incorporated in the Monthly Review of Fruits and Vegetables, a mimeographed sheet distributed from Washington largely to farm papers.



4b. NEW YORK APPLES IN CARTONS.

Below is an interesting letter from Mr. Stanton, of the New York office. It was written on Feb. 7:

"One of the dealers on this market recently has been receiving small lots of New York State apples in small cartons. These cartons are substantially made of heavy cardboard, having a partition through the center, and on each side there are six separated layers of fancy Baldwin apples, each layer containing six apples, so that the carton holds 72 apples. While the packages were marked 'fancy 3 inch Baldwins,' in my opinion the stock probably would not grade above 2-3/4 inches.

"As happens with practically all new packages on this as well as other markets, the trade did not take to it very kindly and the price realized probably was not very satisfactory to the shipper, the stock selling slowly at \$1.25 a carton.

"The cartons were branded with labels marked 'ESKO' and the signature of the Empire State Fruit Company, Livingston, New York.

"Just about a month ago 750 of these cartons, 375 each of Baldwins and Northern Spys, were sold at auction here, the Baldwins selling at \$1.50-1.75 and the Northern Spys at \$2.10."

5b. ST. LOUIS APPLE MARKET.

Under date of Feb. 13, V. G. Gibson, of the St. Louis office, wrote the following interesting account of the apple market in that city:-

"The essential thing to know and remember about this market is, that it is a barrel apple market. With this in mind, consideration must then be given to the fact that during the calendar year 1921 nearly one-third (535) of the cars unloaded came from barreled-apple districts, the remainder (1296) came from boxed-apple districts. Of the barreled apples unloaded here, 37 cars came from Illinois, approximately 19 cars coming from Calhoun County, which is about 60 miles above St. Louis between the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers.

"Now, compare these receipts with the following data for the calendar year 1922: Cars from boxed-apple districts totaled approximately 415; from the barrel districts the receipts were 1,809 cars, with a total of 1620 from Illinois, and of this amount approximately 1,572 came down the river from Calhoun County. From these figures it is seen that the receipts from the barreled-apple districts alone lacked only 22 cars of equaling the total receipts of 1921.

"It must not be assumed that the dealers on any one market stand alone in their 'trimmings received' on the boxed-apple deal, for it is pretty generally recognized that this deal has been handled at a loss to the people at this end of the line for the past three seasons. Such being the case, it is obvious that, with the above-mentioned liberal supplies of barreled stock, the trade would turn naturally to those supplies both from the reason of availability and because of preference. Consequently, 98% or more of the boxed apples have been sold on auction.

"It may be of interest to know that, until about the first of this year, the receipts of boxed stock were comparatively light, because they could not meet the competition of barreled stock, when in many instances sales of barrels were recorded that showed these apples jobbing for less than the freight on a single box. It was not until much of this stock was moved that even the auction had any appreciable amount of boxed stock."



5b. PROPER NAME FOR WESTERN LETTUCE.

Every market reporter is requested to give his opinion on the question raised in the following letter by W. H. Hall, of the El Centro office. Is it practicable to drop the name "Iceberg" for Imperial Valley lettuce, as an example, and in its stead use the name "New York Special"? What is the attitude of the trade on such a suggested change?

"Perhaps you have noticed that my R.O.O. wires for the past several days have specified New York Special in quoting lettuce, and no doubt you wondered why the abrupt change from the quotations on Iceberg. A few days after I came down here I was told that there was not a great deal of Iceberg grown in this section, but the definitions of the prevailing type were so varied that I kept on quoting Iceberg until I could run the subject to earth and know just where I stood.

"I find that, notwithstanding the fact that some of the large distributors and growers have the word 'Iceberg' on their letterheads, and continually talk 'Iceberg,' this variety has never been extensively grown here in the Valley, as it will not thrive in cold weather, nor will New York Special thrive in hot weather. This accounts for the fact that the New York Special, which is cut here around the middle of April, is not of good quality.

"After a great deal of inquiry, I learn that the lettuce here is from seed originated in Italy about two centuries ago, under the name of Neapolitan and later introduced into England under the name of Webb's Wonderful. About 50 years ago Peter Anderson introduced it into the eastern part of the United States under the name of New York Special, and years afterwards a seed firm in California introduced it on the Pacific Coast under the name of Los Angeles Market. One of the largest seed houses on the Pacific Coast inserts a card in every package of this seed, giving all four variety names. Orders come in specifying each of the variety names, but the seed is the same.

"The true Italian type is rather pointed, but the trade does not like the pointed type on account of the difficulty experienced in packing it, so the big seed growers in the Gilroy, California, Section 'breed' it down to a flat type. However, in nearly all fields there will be found many heads that show the distinct Neapolitan type. There is so little real Iceberg lettuce grown here that the name should be discontinued in quoting Imperial Valley lettuce, using instead New York Special, as this name is more commonly used than any other variety names. Iceberg may be identified by its reddish-brown color at the tips of the outer leaves and it is rather loosely headed, more like the Big Boston type. Iceberg is grown extensively in the Los Angeles Section during the spring months."

In another letter, Mr. Hall tells about a meeting of growers, distributors and others interested in the lettuce deal, for the purpose of regulating the harvesting of the crop and the loading of cars at the weekends. The gathering was attended by about 100 persons, and is said to have been one of the largest meetings, if not the largest meeting, of vegetable people ever held in Imperial Valley.



b. INTERESTING ITEMS FROM SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS.

PHILADELPHIA office is issuing a special price report of Philadelphia markets only, with a short summary at the top giving conditions in a general way. This report is mailed to a few dealers who have specifically requested it and to several different railroad claim agents who have stated that it serves their purpose to better advantage than the more detailed daily report. The report is written especially for newspaper publication. The Public Ledger (Philadelphia), The Camden Courier, and six papers in nearby Pennsylvania towns are now using this report, which includes prices on all fruits and vegetables appearing on the market, except those sold exclusively at auction. \*\*\*\* A weekly review of fruit and vegetable market conditions in Philadelphia is also prepared on Friday for newspaper publication. \*\*\*\* Since Mr. Evers' departure from the Philadelphia staff, it has been necessary to cut down the radio program to some extent, but during the last half of 1922 a very comprehensive program was in effect, consisting at one time of six different reports. At 10 A. M. a complete Philadelphia, New York and Newark report of New Jersey fruits and vegetables was broadcast by WFI (Strawbridge & Clothier). At 11 A. M. a general report of the Philadelphia market and the carlot shipments was sent by WCAU (Philadelphia Radiophone Co.); at noon the Philadelphia market by the Diamond State Fibre Co. at Bridgeport, Pa; at 2 P.M. a general review of the local market by WFI; at 2:30 P. M. a special potato report by WCAU, and at 6:45 P. M. a general review of all markets on the principal commodities by WCAU. Special outline reviews have been prepared weekly for the information of the New Jersey Bureau of Markets and the New York Dept. of Farms and Markets. \*\*\*\* Two special reviews, one of the Eastern Shore of Virginia potato season and the other of the New Jersey potato season, were prepared during the six months. Many favorable comments have been received concerning these summaries. \*\*\*\* In connection with the Pennsylvania Bureau of Markets, it is planned to put out a special grain radio report involving the Chicago grain options. Mr. Stuart, of the State Bureau, has spent considerable time in securing these reports from the commercial exchange. Before the active fruit and vegetable season starts next summer, an attempt will be made to concentrate more of the radio reports with Gimbel Bros. (WIP), who have an exceptionally powerful and efficient broadcasting station. \*\*\*\* The Philadelphia office cooperates closely with the Marketing Bureaus of Pennsylvania and New Jersey and the Division of Markets of Delaware. While there is no formal working agreement with Delaware, our office has been of considerable assistance in supplying such reports as that State uses. The Delaware officials have installed a radio receiving outfit, with the idea of getting all the various reports issued.

E. W. Stillwell,  
Specialist in Market News,  
(Fruits and Vegetables)



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK FEB. 5 - 10, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Completed	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Out (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted & Delivered
<b>EASTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Philadelphia - Misc.	1:23	1:45	22	11	4,810	380
New York - Misc. R	1:03	1:35	32	10	5,009	558
Boston - Misc. R	1:02	1:33	36	12	3,279	300
Washington - Misc.	1:00	2:33	93	10	3,125	--
<b>WESTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Kansas City - Misc. Q	1:20	1:47	27	10	4,650	111
Minneapolis - Misc.	1:09	1:38	27	12	8,535	132
Cincinnati - Misc. Q	2:03	2:33	30	10	4,280	650
Pittsburgh - Misc.	1:24	1:55	31	10	3,165	49
St. Louis - Misc. Q	1:02	1:34	32	12	3,575	400
Chicago - Misc. Q	12:53	2:08	75	11	5,040	1,388
Washington - (Nat'l) BFMOR#6 Pl'nuts, Ship. Infm.				92	40,920	1,941
TOTAL	1:14#	1:55#	41#	200	86,388	5,909
" previous week	12:52#	1:31#	39#	204	91,152	6,701
<b>WESTERN OFFICE (Jan. 29-Feb. 3)</b>						
Los Angeles - Misc. LR#5	3:20	4:05	45	18	13,745	--
" " previous week	3:49	4:32	43	18	13,760	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				1,223	611,038	35,891

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK FEB. 5 - 10, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage or	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
El Centro - L		12:46	3:01	2,800	413		
Grand Rapids - R		12:13	1:55	7,902	1,310		
Greeley - R		12:49	1:24	11,583	1,050		
*Idaho Falls - R		2:07	3:07	3,320	327		
*Presque Isle - R		2:08	2:55	4,365	1,448		
Rochester - BR		2:45	3:38	3,230	532		
Sanford - H		2:29	4:12	3,248	498		
*Spokane - B		1:30	4:20	2,904	312		
Waupaca - R		12:08	2:12	6,420	1,070		
TOTAL		1:26#	3:52#	45,772			
" previous week		1:13#	2:37#	40,768			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				257,129			

# Average time.

\* Reports 2 times a week.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE, JAN. 1 - 904,058,



FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE.c. ADDRESS ON BOTTOM OF CERTIFICATES.

In putting your address on the bottom of the certificate do not neglect to add the name of your market. For example: if a certificate issued in Akron, Ohio, bears only the street address of the Cincinnati office under the Inspector's name, any communication for the Inspector will naturally be addressed to the given number and street in Akron instead of in Cincinnati.

2c. DEMANDING ADVANCE PAYMENT OF REINSPECTION FEE.

My attention has been called to the fact that some offices, in all cases of reinspections, have been demanding in advance the payment of the \$12.00 fee. This is not necessary and should not ordinarily be done. Paragraph 27g, which covered this matter, says that advance payment should be demanded "when it is felt advisable."

We have no more reason to feel that a distant firm will refuse to pay a reinspection fee on demand than that they will refuse to pay a regular inspection fee which is not demanded in advance.

Our Regulations are so worded as to justify us in demanding advance payment from parties whom we know to be untrustworthy or with whom we anticipate trouble in making collections. When the applicant for reinspection is the shipper and application is made by wire, action should not be delayed by awaiting for the wiring of the \$12.00 reinspection fee.

3c. RESTRICTION ON ACCOUNT OF HEAVY LOADING.

The extensive use of the term "heavy loading" in connection with restricted certificates, has been questioned. It is necessary to restrict certificates covering many cars which are not loaded beyond the average quantity usually shipped in a car. For example: 756 boxes of apples constitute a standard load; spinach in bushel baskets is generally loaded almost to the roof of the car and yet the load is not heavier than normal for this product. The certificate on both cars must be restricted.

It is thought that the following expression will more nearly conform to the facts in such cases: "Certificate restricted to accessible portion of the load, consisting of -----", with definite statement of portion inspected. Or, in case of bulk products, the simple statement: "Certificate restricted to upper \_\_\_\_\_ feet of load."

4c. SEND IN CERTIFICATES PROMPTLY.

Several offices apparently are not sending in certificates the day on which they are issued. We must insist upon this being done. Since certificates go to the Office of Audits and Accounts for recording, it is even more necessary than formerly that they be sent in promptly. Please do not make it necessary for us to take this up with you individually.

5c. REPORT MINEOGRAPH SUPPLIES IN STORAGE

All offices which are not issuing market reports are requested to advise Mr. Evans of any supply of mineograph paper, framed manila envelopes, stencils or mineograph ink which is being stored, in order that such supplies may be utilized elsewhere.



February 15, 1925.

13.

## INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF JANUARY, 1925.

MARKETS	Total	Total	Grand	Total	Ins. Oct.	Declined	FEES ASSESSED		
	Fruits	Vegetables		same	Ins. for	for lack	C/L	L.O.L.	Certit
	C/L & L.C.L.	C/L & L.C.L.		Month 1924	Carriers	of time			
Atlanta	9	21	30	39	4	-	\$ 112	\$ 5.00	\$ 7
Baltimore	21	12	33	49	1	-	122	2.50	1
Boston	54	40	94	50	5	2	380	5.00	9
Buffalo	26	9	35	21	3	-	124	10.00	10
Chicago	185	83	268	258	7	-	1008	40.00	29
Cincinnati	11	15	24	45	-	-	104	--	1
Cleveland	12	48	60	102	17	-	238	2.50	9
Columbus	6	10	16	9	1	-	60	--	--
Denver	1	1	2	--	--	-	18	--	--
Detroit	38	20	58	41	3	-	224	5.00	--
Erie	1	0	1	--	--	-	4	--	--
Fort Worth	30	13	43	15	5	-	164	2.50	4
Harrisburg	3	0	3	2	2	-	12	--	-1
Houston	20	17	37	16	7	-	140	5.00	--
Indianapolis	10	10	20	27	-	-	84	2.50	4
Kansas City	24	22	46	52	-	-	164	12.50	5
Los Angeles	--	--	--	4	-	-	--	--	--
Memphis	5	22	27	26	12	-	108	--	9
Milwaukee	42	11	53	31	12	-	192	12.50	--
Minneapolis	22	46	68	78	--	3	298	10.00	3
New Orleans	21	29	50	35	22	-	192	5.00	20
New York	214	129	343	357	24	13	1272	82.50	19
Norfolk	12	11	23	20	5	5	92	--	--
Omaha	32	2	34	37	--	2	138	--	-1
Philadelphia	199	32	231	425	182	--	804	37.50	72
Pittsburgh	26	88	114	151	28	2	444	7.50	16
San Francisco	0	2	2	1	--	1	8	--	--
St. Louis	27	22	109	74	49	--	416	7.50	15
Washington	12	27	39	21	8	--	152	2.50	6
Wichita	5	5	10	7	1	--	48	--	1
Wilkes-Barre	1	1	2	2	--	--	8	--	1
TOTAL	1069	806	1875	2100	398	26	37148	\$257.50	\$25

## RECAPITULATION.

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections.....	1069	Inspections for Carriers..	398
TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections...	806	Declined for Lack of Time..	26
Grand Total C/L and L.C.L. Inspections.....	1875	Total Fees Assessed.....	\$257.50
Decreased from January, 1924.....	11%		

\*Total Fees Assessed includes \$17.50 for 2 mixed cars inspected in St. Louis and 1 in Boston.



## c. INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING JANUARY, 1923.

Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps	Total		ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS									
	Number of Inspections		Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		Total Quantity INSPECTED		Cuts made to comply with specifications.		Items billed short-weight.	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	239	12	165457	7185	17520	0	182777	7183	724	0	0	0
NEW YORK	262	48	312282	248515	21339	0	333621	248515	1776	555	0	0
PORTFOLK	*	-	1634402	-	98119	-	1732521	-	19400	-	0	0
PHILADELPHIA	168	20	110950	15095	9073	200	120003	19293	775	179	0	0
SAN DIEGO	*	42	518432	33444	48771	2115	567203	40550	2116	25	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	*	-	1655800	-	143055	-	1798833	-	5500	-	0	0
SAN PEDRO	*	-	646344	-	93975	-	740319	-	75	-	0	0
TOTAL	669	122	5143647	513255	431630	2516	5575277	315551	28567	759	0	0

\* No record of number of inspections.

The New York office made 27 inspections for the U. S. Health Service Hospitals during last half of January, amounting to 43,143 lbs. in addition to their report given above. Since these inspections are made at the contractor's store, monthly reports will show no rejections, no products being offered for final acceptance which have not been approved in advance by the Inspector.

The New York office also inspected 88,171 lbs. of fruits and 167,185 lbs. of vegetables for the United States Lines during January. Of the total of 255,356 lbs. of fruits and vegetables inspected, 19,047 lbs. were rejected and 265 lbs. cut.

In addition to the above, 23,373 lbs. of butter and 20,200 lbs. of bread were inspected at San Pedro.

F. G. Robb,  
Specialist in Inspection.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 8  
February 23, 1923.  
(Contents Confidential)

1a. HOLLAND VEGETABLES SHIPPED TO THE UNITED STATES.

Under date of Feb. 9, the Agricultural Commissioner at London sent to the Washington office the following clipping from the "Gazette de Hollande" of Feb. 3. Commissioner Foley had received it in turn from Mr. Guinn, of the Department of Commerce at The Hague:

DUTCH VEGETABLES FOR THE AMERICAN MARKET.

Cold Storage Difficulties.

The Central Auction Bureau in the Netherlands has published an extensive report dealing with the sample consignments of vegetables and fruit which were recently sent to America. In 1921 a committee, consisting of Messrs. C. van der Graaf and F. V. Valstar, proceeded to America to study the requirements of the U. S. market and the possibility of exporting Dutch produce to that market. The committee arrived at the conclusion that export prospects were good for cucumbers, cauliflower, tomatoes, onions, grapes, pears and red and white cabbage. It recommended the sending of sample consignments to learn whether the American public would take to the Dutch produce. Mr. van der Graaf undertook to make all arrangements for the despatch of the goods, whilst the same was entrusted to the Fruit Auction Co., of New York.

The report states that in 1922, samples of cucumbers, tomatoes, cauliflower, grapes, carrots and Brussels sprouts were sent to America. As regards cucumbers, the results were not encouraging. The product was not in prime condition when it was put upon the market. This was partly caused by the inadequate cold storage facilities of the Holland-America Line steamers. Large quantities of homegrown cucumbers were also placed upon the market. Perhaps, in more normal years, and once the cold storage question is solved, cucumber imports will be more successful.

Disappointing Results.

Eight consignments of tomatoes were sent, carefully packed, each tomato separately, but the results were disappointing. Those obtained with cauliflower were more favourable. In May, 70 crates, holding 4,000 heads of forced cauliflower, were exported, all of which arrived in good condition. The proceeds averaged fl.33.15 per crate. Further consignments yielded favourable results. (The Dutch florin is worth about 40¢ in American money.)

Consignments of grapes were less successful. On account of the cold storage difficulties on the steamers of the Holland-America Line, the grapes were sent by the Red Star Line, via Antwerp. The first three consignments were found useless on arrival at the U. S. market. It appeared that success was only possible with selected fruit of superior quality. The results obtained with the fourth and fifth consignments, which were handled with special care, were more satisfactory. (Continued over)

February 23, 1923.

The first consignment of carrots arrived in good condition but the carrots proved too small for the American market. The second consignment, which had not been sent in cold storage, proved unfit for sale. The proceeds from Brussels sprouts were small.

In conclusion, the report points out that, as regards exports to America, the cold storage question is of paramount importance, whilst freights and cost of loading should be reduced.

2a. ARTICLES IN WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS.

Did you notice these articles relating to fruits and vegetables in recent issues of Weather, Crops and Markets?—

Feb. 10, page 115, filler at bottom of first column.

page 119, review, with special paragraph on potatoes.

page 120, monthly table of carlot shipments, also shipments of citrus fruits. Filler on western New York potatoes. Misuse of Potato Grades Illegal.

Feb. 17, page 136, review, with special paragraph on onions.

page 137, Western New York Apple Situation.

Idaho Becoming Important Shipper of Fall Lettuce.

Early Shipments of Lettuce from Imperial Valley.

page 138, Michigan Potato Shipments Retarded by Lack of Cars.

Florida Celery Shipments Very Heavy.

Florida Lettuce Season Well Advanced.

Maine Potato Situation.

page 142, Certified Seed Potatoes in New York State.

North Carolina Peach Shipments Increased.

page 143, Wide Distribution of North Carolina Peaches; filler concerning western New York apples.

page 146, Apple Exports to Great Britain Increased.

Report of British Apple Market.

page 148, Schedule for Issuance of Crop Reports.

page 149, Transportation Costs on Arizona Cantaloupes.

page 150, Western New York Onion Situation.

page 151, Estimated Farm Value of Apples and Beans.

Comparisons with Pre-war Prices of Potatoes, Sweet potatoes, Apples, Beans, Cabbage, Onions, Peanuts, Peaches and Pears.

page 152, Estimated Farm Value of Turnips.

Average Farm Prices of Cabbage, Onions, Beans, Peanuts and Turnips.

page 153, Estimated Farm Value of Potatoes and Sweet potatoes.

Average Farm Prices of Potatoes, Sweet potatoes and Apples.

page 154, Extent of Crop Damage in Recent Years, with special reference to Apples and Potatoes. (See table on page 155)

page 155, Western New York Cabbage Situation.

Shipping-point Inspection Proves Its Value.

page 156, Potato Stocks on Hand, January 1, (See table on page 157)

The paper for Feb. 17 is a good example of the fact that fruit and vegetable material is frequently scattered throughout an entire issue of Weather, Crops and Markets and not limited to the page headed "Fruits and Vegetables."

Please note paragraph 17 in The Bureau News for Feb. 20, regarding certain changes in Weather, Crops and Markets, effective March 10.



February 23, 1925.

3a. FEDERAL GRADES BEING USED IN FLORIDA.

On Feb. 18, Mr. Hauck wrote as follows concerning the use of Federal grades in the Plant City section of Florida:

"I am supervising the work of two packing crews, one at Youman's and one at Hopewell, and all the strawberries put out in these two sheds are graded in conformity with the requirements of the U. S. No. 1 grade. We are labeling every quart with labels like the one enclosed and are pooling these berries separately from all others shipped, in the hope of securing better returns and thereby attracting the surrounding growers into these two sheds in order to get their crops graded and marked, and so participate in the higher sales. The first day we began with only three 30-quart refrigerators but have increased that to 8 or 10 a day. So far, they have all been sent to one distributor, but whenever we have sufficient volume to justify it, we will divide the shipments among two or more markets. Along with each freezer of graded berries goes one of ordinary stock, selected at random from the day's receipts, in order to give us a fair comparison. I am cautioning the growers to not expect results immediately as it will take some time to get the trade familiar with the brand and the grade and to find the outlets that are willing to pay a premium for uniform quality.

"Mr. Sherman was here Tuesday and Wednesday. I had an engagement to talk to the Kiwanis Club at their luncheon Wednesday noon and secured an invitation also for Mr. Sherman. I explained the work I am doing and outlined briefly the ultimate object we have in view. Mr. Sherman discussed shipping-point inspection and the relation our work on grading and standardization bears to it. Judging from comments I have heard since, our ideas were well received, and the organization is going to get back of us with all the support at their command. The Plant City newspaper today will carry two items in regard to better grading, the need for uniformity, and the possibility of getting shipping-point inspection. I turned over to the editor a list of the advantages of shipping-point inspection that appeared in a recent number of the Division Letter.

"The Plant City Growers' Association has a large packing house in Plant City that is now being used as an orange packing plant, but which they tell me is used later on to put up tomatoes. They expect to put their tomatoes, beans and cucumbers through this house this year and have agreed to use the Federal grades for the tomatoes and cucumbers. If there were Federal grades for beans, they would use them also."

The label to which Mr. Hauck refers is printed in red ink on paper about 2½ x 5 inches, and reads as shown opposite this paragraph:-

U.S. Grade No. 1  
P L A C I G A  
brand  
Strawberries.  
Packed and Shipped by the Plant City  
Growers' Assn., Plant City, Fla.



4a. TRANSFERS OR LOSSES OF PROPERTY MUST BE REPORTED PROMPTLY.

In checking over the inventory reports filed by field men, most of the discrepancies found pertain to articles which have been transferred from one person to another or which have been lost without reporting such transfers or losses to the Washington office. Form F&V-1 must be submitted to cover every transfer of responsibility for an article of property and Form AE-102 must be submitted, in triplicate, to cover every loss. Detailed instructions appear on these forms. These forms should be filled in and forwarded promptly as the Washington record charges articles of property to various men in the field who have signed the papers acknowledging receipt of the articles. Persons who thereby accept responsibility for property are held accountable for such items.

The failure to report transfers and losses results in considerable unnecessary or preventable correspondence when the inventories are checked and causes some difficulty in accounting for articles which were disposed of several months previous. Everything will be much more satisfactory and time will be saved, if these papers are prepared and forwarded without delay. It is necessary that the Washington office know the exact location of every inventorial article before it can properly certify to the Bureau Property Section the inventory of all the property in the Fruit and Vegetable Division.

5a. CAR OF NORTH DAKOTA POTATOES BRINGS GROWER \$1.30.

Below is an abstract from the Fargo, N. Dak., "Forum" of recent date. The article presents a picture of a check for \$1.30 from the Minnesota Potato Exchange at Minneapolis to N. P. Nelson, of Leal, N. Dak. The distance from Leal to Minneapolis is scarcely more than 300 miles. The check is dated Jan. 17, 1923, and below it is shown a copy of the statement accompanying the check:-

This check is full payment for Car Soo 150356, Lot 5693, Commodity - Potatoes.

Weight: 42000#	Price per cwt. \$1.80	Brought forward \$336.00
Our charges .....	\$42.00	Frts. Investigate.. \$28.20
Inspection.....	4.00	Allowance a/c
Freight @ 43¢....	180.60	quality 5¢ cwt.. 21.00
Option at 7¢.....	29.40	Shrinkage, 3630#.. 27.22
Heater Detention	2.00	Scale..... .23
		Total charges, \$374.70
		Check to balance, \$ 1.30

EWS ITEMS.

Upon Mr. Sherman's return to the Washington office on Tuesday, he reported that cooperative agreements are under consideration with four southern States, regarding shipping-point inspection on the products listed below: Texas - Bermuda onions; Florida - tomatoes and watermelons; Georgia - watermelons; North Carolina - peaches. Just how extensive this service will be and at what shipping points has not yet been determined. Some of this new inspection work may be started before March 15.

Mr. Samson is spending a few days of this week in Boston and New York, conferring with Inspectors and members of the trade regarding grades for various fruits and vegetables. He is expected back at his desk by Monday.

On Tuesday, Mr. Stillwell visited the Baltimore office to discuss with Mr. Harrison a number of matters relating to the Market News Service.



NEWS ITEMS (Continued)

H. A. Spilman returned to Washington on Wednesday, after a three-months' trip in the interest of the work on standard containers, especially the enforcement of the Standard Container Act. He visited package factories in most of the southern States and in the Middle West. Recently he spent some time in the Sanford section of Florida, making investigations with Mr. Bier and other employees of this Division.

On March 1, J. J. Gardner, of the Pittsburgh office, will deliver a short address on perishable fruits and vegetables before a district meeting of A. & P. store managers in Pittsburgh. Nathan Ruderman, who was connected with the News Service until 1920, is associated with the A. & P. Tea Company and is making arrangements for this convention of managers.

W. D. Googe, of the Fort Worth office of the Market News Service, is expected to come to Washington within a few days on a short period of leave. He, like many others, recently suffered a severe attack of the grippe.

L. D. Mills, cooperative Inspector at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., has recovered from his attack of pneumonia and is again on duty. W. C. Lynn, who substituted for him during his illness, has now returned to Harrisburg, as has S. W. Russell, who assisted for a few weeks with the Pittsburgh inspection work.

Inspector W. E. Lewis, of the New York staff, was obliged to be off a few days last week on account of the grippe.

F. J. Baehler, Supervising Inspector of Wisconsin cooperative potato inspection service, spent the latter part of last week at Rhinelander, Wis., in connection with this work.

C. H. Johnson, of the Inspection staff in Chicago, has been at Minneapolis since the first week of February, on account of the serious illness of his wife. From the 22nd to the 28th of this month he will continue this period of leave, but without pay.

Word was received recently that Russell L. Lepper, who worked with Mr. Fiske until the fall of 1921, is now employed as a bookkeeper in the Pyrene Mfg. Company, near Newark. His address is 220 Newark Ave., Bloomfield, New Jersey.

Miss Faith L. Yeaw, an employee of the Market News Service until March, 1918, and co-author of Dept. Bulletin No. 315 on cantaloupes, visited friends in the Washington office a few days ago. After leaving this Bureau, Miss Yeaw worked with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and for the past two years has been doing Red Cross work in her home State, Vermont. She is now in the employ of the Federal Coal Commission, with offices in the Dept. of Interior.

E. E. Conklin was at Grand Rapids, Mich., on Monday and at Detroit on Tuesday and Wednesday. Later itinerary has not yet been received.

Did you notice page 5 of The Official Record for Feb. 14? It contains an extensive article regarding the News Service.

In the table of January inspections on page 75 of the last D. L., please note that the 7 inspections marked for Wichita in the 1922 column should appear opposite Wilkes-Barre instead of Wichita.

February 23, 1923.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTS

Market News Service on Fruits and Vegetables.

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will close
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs. L. B. Gerry	Apples	Sept. 26	Mar. 1
PHESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	J. D. Snow	Potatoes	Sept. 13	Mar. 1
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage*	Sept. 11 Sept. 13 Sept. 23 Oct. 2	Oct. 11* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 27*
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	C. E. Schultz	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS. Chamber of Commerce	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 221 Ashton Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples*	Oct. 17 Oct. 17	May 1 Nov. 11*
GREELEY, COLO. 214 Post Office Bldg.	885	G. E. Prince	Potatoes	Dec. 4	Apr. 15
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	W. H. Hall	Lettuce	Jan. 9	Mar. 24
SANFORD, FLA. Chamber of Commerce	910	J. D. Evers	Celery	Jan. 22	Mar. 31

The following station probably will open on date indicated:

HAMMOND, LA.	802	Unassigned	Berries	Mar. 5	Apr. 21.
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\* Report discontinued.



MARKET NEWS SERVICE
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1b. CHANGES AND ADDITIONS ON "GOB" AND "GOD-GOS" PAGES OF THE CODE.

On "GOB" (Miscellaneous F.O.B. Phrases) page of the code, change

GOBIQ Farmers busy with other work to read:

GOBIQ Better wire inquiry

(Suggested by Mr. Hall)

On "GOD-GOS" (Miscellaneous Market Phrases) page, change

GODAG Levee sales to read:

GODAG Carlot track sales

This term is for use in cases when it is uncertain whether the carlot sales were invoice or outweigh. (Suggested by Mr. Gibson)

Also on the "GOD-GOS" page, change

GODIV Track sales, invoice weight to read:

GODIV Carlot track sales, invoice weight.

2b. CANTALOUPE SITUATION IN IMPERIAL VALLEY.

Writing under date of Feb. 12, W. H. Hall, of the El Centro field station, sent the following interesting letter concerning cantaloupes: "I thought you might be interested to learn of some of the latest developments here in the Valley touching upon the cantaloupe industry, which is of course the most important vegetable crop here, - a crop that has perhaps caused more headaches and sleepless nights for distributors and growers alike than any other crop in the Valley, not excepting cotton, alfalfa, or any of the other major crops, of which the acreage is greatly in excess of the cantaloupe acreage.

"Thinning has been going on for almost a month and a few scattering fields will be blooming in about two weeks. Planting is also still going on and will continue until around the first of March. It now appears that the acreage will be cut down somewhat from recent estimates, due to the fact that cool nights have been holding back the lettuce and a great deal of this acreage which had been planned for late cantaloupe planting will not be ready in time. Early estimates of the cantaloupe acreage indicated a material reduction from last year's plantings, but it now seems that the reduction (if any) will not be as great as at first indicated, even though the late lettuce may prevent the planting of many fields that had been planned for cantaloupes.

"Frost has occurred on at least eight nights since the first of January and, while the injury to cantaloupes has been comparatively slight each time, the aggregate of this damage is noticeable and may run as high as 6% or 8% in plants killed outright or injured enough to cause replanting. Most of the damage was to plants which had been thinned and one end of the paper left open. The onion thrip has made its appearance in many fields, particularly in what is known as District No. 8. I saw one field of approximately 400 acres that showed considerable thrip damage and was informed that many other fields showed like damage. The next week or ten days should determine whether or not the growers have this pest under control. 'No. 16,' a 2% nicotine dust, is being used and seems to be doing good work. Several fields in the Holtville section are infested with a small worm, which works on the plant root, causing the plant to wilt and die in a day or two after being attacked. This appears to be a more difficult problem than the thrip, but the County Agricultural Agent is doing all he can to head off this new pest."



February 23, 1923.

3b. INTERESTING ITEMS FROM SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS.

LOS ANGELES:- "The miscellaneous report, covering sales direct to retailers in the Los Angeles market for 25 to 30 fruits and vegetables, is the principal special report issued. It is published daily except Saturday and has a mailing list of 1240, mostly nearby producers, retail merchants, hotels, restaurants and local newspapers. It is frequently used as the basis of sales by producers directly to hotels, retailers, or other large buyers, both in Los Angeles and in nearby cities. Five daily newspapers and two weekly agricultural papers print it in full and the 'Pacific Coast Packer' uses it in preparing their summary of Los Angeles market conditions. We also prepare a summary of carlot shipments and market prices of the chief commodities that are being shipped from Southern California, for radio broadcasting. This report at present covers lettuce and cauliflower, and varies with the season. Monthly crop forecasts by wire are published as special reports. Extracts from the semi-monthly crop letters and other Bureau publications are published as fillers. Tables of California shipments by loading stations for the previous year, tabulated from the mail reports, are published at the beginning of each crop movement. Complete tables of California shipments for the preceding calendar year, based on the mail reports, are published early in each year. These reports are of the greatest interest to growers and shippers, and their publication is eagerly awaited. The miscellaneous market report could be improved by the use of prices paid growers for all homegrown fruits and vegetables, instead of sales to retailers. Since about 85% of the vegetables and 35% of the fruit consumed in Los Angeles are produced locally, this service would be of great value to producers. However, since nearly all homegrown fruits and vegetables are sold by growers to jobbers in another market some eight or ten blocks from the Wholesale Terminal and from midnight to 6:00 a.m., this feature cannot be developed unless this office were to have a technical assistant. A development of prices paid growers would also be a valuable addition to the radio reports, as in this way growers could get local market information twenty-four hours earlier than at present. A special service that has been under consideration is the use of radio broadcasting stations to send out reports of the daily markets for publication in local newspapers. We are awaiting the completion of a high-powered broadcasting station in Los Angeles, which has been building since early November and which will have a daylight range of about 250 miles. We have made arrangements with the 'Brawley News' of Brawley, California, to publish the broadcast information on lettuce markets in their afternoon edition. If this experiment is successful, we shall endeavor to get every local newspaper in producing districts within 250 miles of Los Angeles to publish our radio summary of market conditions, giving their readers this information from one to two days sooner than it comes by mail."

BALTIMORE:- It should be remembered that the Baltimore office does not issue mimeographed reports; the mailing list for that city is served from the Washington office. This explains the nature of Mr. Harrison's work, outlined partly in the following paragraphs: (Continued on next page.)



February 23, 1923.

"Brief typewritten reports on leading products are distributed to the trade at Bolton Station each afternoon; many other New York and Philadelphia markets are decoded and given over the phone, and typed copies of the Butter and Egg report are mailed each day to the largest dealers in time to be received in the same day's afternoon mail. Requests for price information continue to increase, coming from the various railroads, steamboat and express companies, the trade, newspapers and traffic adjustment bureaus. Requests range from three to eight daily. Many new names are being added to our mailing list. I am still giving some of my time many days to the Inspection work. The handling of the Butter and Egg reports also involves considerable time, especially at this season of the year. The above-mentioned activities, with the morning and afternoon markets to cover, generally takes more than a full day. As soon as the Baltimore 'News' and 'American' complete their new and larger broadcasting station, I am planning to prepare a daily market report to be broadcasted."

ST. LOUIS:- This office issues a monthly summary, giving the total number of carloads of various commodities received and unloaded, average daily receipts, unloads, cars on track, and a general summary of where the stock came from the preceding month. A special annual summary, similar to the monthly report, was recently published, with good results. \*\*\*\*\* A cooperative arrangement is in effect with the St. Louis University, by which our office prepares a condensed report of the St. Louis produce markets and the Chicago potato market which is phoned at 1:25 P.M. daily and broadcasted by radio from the University at 2 P.M. \*\*\*\*\* Mr. Gibson states that occasionally information is received over the leased wire after the daily bulletins have been released; if deemed of sufficient importance, such information is phoned to the members of the trade. This special service is always greatly appreciated and favorably commented upon. The daily reports are desired by a majority of the trade and kept on file. Favorable comments are occasionally heard regarding these reports.

4b. USE OF REPORTS FOR SETTLEMENT OF RAILROAD CLAIMS.

Mr. Biddle recently furnished the Washington office with an interesting tabulation of the value of pending claims for which daily market reports were requested by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. He has divided the total value of the claims into two parts for the months of October, November, December, and January. The first division includes the value of the claims for which the requested reports were furnished, and the second division the value of the claims for which no reports could be furnished. These respective figures by months are as follows: -- October \$1930.11 and \$445.00; November \$2710.10 and \$734.90; December \$3693.31 and \$449.40; January \$894.86 and \$355.75. Mr. Biddle states that the requests for these months are relatively light, compared with requests received in previous months.

5b. POTATO SITUATION IN GREELEY DISTRICT.

In submitting an article for Weather, Crops and Markets, G. E. Prince in charge of the field station at Greeley, Colo., made the following comment

"It has been so dull this winter, there is very little to write about. It seems that 'year by year in very way the Greeley district is becoming less important as a potato district,' and many of the old-time dealers say that they never expect to open their warehouses after this season is over."

6b. THE TERM "CHOICE" NOT TO BE USED WITH APPLES. (Change in Code)

It seems necessary to repeat the following item, which was published in the Division Letter for February 9, 1922:-

"The following item appeared in the Project Letter of February 5, 1920:

'On January 29, a wire was sent over all circuits, requesting the immediate discontinuance of the use of the word 'Choice' in connection with boxed apple grades, even though the term may be commonly used by the trade. Northwestern grading rules provide for 'C' grade, not 'Choice'. This latter term is undesirable in the Northwest.'

"Lately a few market stations have fallen back into the practice of using the word 'Choice' in their local apple reports. 'Choice' is not a recognized grade term in any State for either boxed or barreled apples, and there is therefore no necessity for retaining the term on the apple page of the code.

"All code books in which the symbol KAJ has not been changed to 'C grade' should be corrected at once. As this gives us two code terms for 'C grade' on the 'KA-KI' page of the code, cross out the meaning 'C' following KAN, leaving that symbol blank and available for some future designation."

7b. SUMMARIES OF MISSOURI WATERMELONS AND IDAHO LETTUCE.

A 5-page summary of the Kennett, Mo., watermelon deal for 1922, and an 8-page summary of the Idaho lettuce season of 1922 have recently been released. The latter was prepared by C. E. Schultz, of the Idaho Falls office on the basis of information secured by him from various sources in Idaho and elsewhere. The article which appears in Weather, Crops and Markets for Feb. 17 is based on this summary of Mr. Schultz'.

E. W. Stillwell,  
Specialist in Market News,  
(Fruits and Vegetables)



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS, WEEK FEB. 12-17, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted & Delivered
<b>EASTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Philadelphia - Misc.	1:30	1:52	22	10	3,860	305
New York - Misc. R	1:00	1:29	29	9	4,008	542
Boston - Misc. M	1:08	1:53	45	13	2,977	300
Washington - Misc.	12:45	2:10	85	10	3,115	--
<b>WESTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
St. Louis - Misc. Q	12:06	12:27	21	14	3,730	400
Cincinnati - Misc. Q	2:03	2:32	29	10	4,290	650
Kansas City - Misc. Q	12:30	1:00	30	10	6,343	--
Pittsburgh - Misc.	12:18	12:54	36	10	3,176	49
Minneapolis - Misc.	12:13	12:51	38	12	8,580	132
Chicago - Misc.	12:47	2:18	91	12	5,067	2,834
Washington - (Nat'l) BFLMOR#6 Honey P'nuts, Ship. Infm.				93	44,366	1,941
<b>TOTAL</b>	12:50#	1:33#	43#	203	89,512	7,153
" previous week	1:14#	1:55#	41#	200	86,388	5,909
<b>WESTERN OFFICE (Feb. 5-10)</b>						
Los Angeles - Misc. L#3	3:15	4:09	44	18	13,755	--
" " previous week	3:20	4:05	45	18	13,745	--
<b>TOTAL JAN. 1 to date</b>				1,444	714,305	43,044

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK, FEB. 12-17, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
El Centro - L		1:18	3:07	2,835	402	--	3
Grand Rapids - R		12:08	2:24	7,902	1,310	--	--
Greeley - R		12:51	1:34	6,602	1,095	--	--
*Idaho Falls - R		2:13	2:48	2,505	835	1	--
*Presque Isle - R		2:15	3:03	4,369	1,449	--	--
Rochester - BR		2:21	3:12	3,223	507	--	5
Sanford - H		2:20	4:04	3,276	512	3	--
*Spokane - B		1:50	3:15	2,619	820	1	--
Waupaca - R		12:12	2:14	6,512	1,085	1	--
<b>TOTAL</b>		1:30#	2:51#	39,843			
" previous week		1:26#	3:52#	45,772			
<b>TOTAL JAN. 1 to date</b>				296,972			

# Average Time. \*Reports 3 times a week.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE, JAN. 1 - 1,054,321

February 23, 1923.

FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE1c. WEEKLY AND MONTHLY REPORTS OF REINSPECTIONS.

In order that the Washington office can intelligently answer inquiries regarding reinspections, it is requested that each branch office send in a report of all reinspections made during the period with each weekly and monthly report. On the weekly report, this may be given under "Remarks." In the monthly report, this statement can be made on a separate sheet and should show the originating State and certificate number (if known), the reinspection certificate number, commodity, and whether the original inspection was sustained or reversed.

Notation should also be made, showing the number of second inspections made for condition only. Technically these are not reinspections, but a record of such is desired as well as of reinspections for grade.

This information was furnished by all offices for the period up to January 1, and your list sent in with February monthly report should show all reinspections made during January and February.

2c. NEW METHOD OF LOADING CAULIFLOWER.

Attention of all Inspectors is called to the fact that many cars of cauliflower are now being loaded with the middle layers four rows wide, leaving air spaces or "pigeon holes" between rows. The remaining layers are loaded five rows wide. Mr. Butler reports that practically all cars from the Colma section of California are loaded in this manner. Chunk ice is usually placed in these pigeon holes, as well as over the top of the load.

Very few inspection certificates describe this manner of loading and, unless the report is restricted, the entire certificate may be discredited by the shipper when he knows that his car was loaded in this manner and our certificate does not so describe it. Unless your certificate is restricted to the upper layers, be sure you are right before reporting the entire load five rows wide.

3c. SEND IN CRITICISMS OF INSPECTOR'S HANDBOOK.

Several of the sections of the Inspector's Handbook, especially those that were issued some time ago, have parts that are now obsolete or contradictory to later instructions. In order to assist in the revision of these parts, all Inspectors are requested to inform this office of any sections of the Handbook that they think are in need of correction or revision. It is your "Bible" and this is your chance to improve it. Let us make it as nearly perfect as possible.

F. G. Robb,  
Specialist in Inspection.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 9

March 1, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. MOVING DAY IN WASHINGTON OFFICE.

Today was another moving day in the Washington office. Somebody remarked: "Life in Washington is just one move after another."

In order to be closer to the other project leaders and to Mr. Sherman's office, Mr. Samson and Mrs. Linn moved from 516 to Room 523. (See floor diagram in Division Letter of Jan. 25.) Mr. Spilman and Mr. Bier will be in Room 525, and Messrs. Baker and Clark in Room 526. Miss Ericson, formerly with Admer D. Miller, will have her desk in Room 525 instead of 523. The Domestic Wool Section moved from these rooms on the east side of the building to Room 503 on the north or front. That section includes Mr. Evans, Mrs. Lawrence, Miss Parker and Miss Mangers; Mr. DeMott and Mrs. Mague are temporarily located in Room 513. Mr. Fiske's section, including Miss Eldridge, Miss Gachet, Mr. Froehlich and Mrs. Ireland have moved to Rooms 516, 516A and 517. Mrs. Lacy and other employees of the Inspection Service who were in Room 503 are now in Room 528. Mr. Stambaugh, Miss Edwards and other occupants of Room 513 have moved to Room 514. A new floor diagram will be published later.

2a. SOUTHERN BERRIES, ONIONS AND POTATOES SET BACK BY COLD WEATHER.

A recent wire from Hammond, La., states that the heavy frost on Feb. 19 set back the strawberry crop several weeks. First shipments were to have rolled about March 1 but it is not likely that carlot movement will now start until about March 25 or April 1.

The onion movement from Laredo district of Texas also will be delayed until about March 25; a few shipments may be made as early as March 10 or 15.

On Feb. 23, Mr. Marks, field representative of the Division of Crop Estimates, wired from Florida as follows:

"Potatoes at Hastings, - tops cut to ground by frost of 19th. December plantings damaged 50%; slight injury to remainder of crop. Average damage around 25%; crop delayed three weeks. Cabbage and celery uninjured. Tomatoes on East Coast from Vero south and in Manatee section uninjured. Early tomatoes in Sumter and Marion Counties, also watermelons, destroyed; will replant. Beans on East Coast uninjured; Centerhill 80% loss; will replant. Strawberries at Plant City mostly covered; at Starke and Lawtey the bloom was destroyed; crop cut short three weeks. Protected cucumbers generally unhurt. Beans, peas and unprotected cucumbers suffered slight injury in Sanford and Manatee sections; heavy injury farther north. Manatee lettuce unhurt; some damage reported in Gainesville section."

TO KEEP WELL-INFORMED CONCERNING THE WORK OF THE FRUIT AND VEGETABLE  
DIVISION, READ THE DIVISION LETTER REGULARLY.



March 1, 1923.

3a. ARTICLES DESCRIBING CITY MARKETS.

During the past year, Weather, Crops and Markets has carried a series of articles describing a number of the large produce markets. Most of these stories were written a year ago by the men in charge of the respective market stations and the series has proved to be of considerable interest and value. The articles are listed below, with the issue and date of the paper in which printed. In every case, these stories were given space on the front page:

Market Described.	Volume and Number of Paper.	Date of Paper.
<u>The Market Reporter:</u>		
New York City.....	Vol. 4, No. 27.....	Dec. 31, 1921.
<u>Weather, Crops and Markets:</u>		
Kansas City.....	Vol. 1, No. 9.....	Mar. 4, 1922.
Pittsburgh.....	Vol. 1, No. 11.....	Mar. 18, 1922.
Boston.....	Vol. 1, No. 19.....	May 13, 1922.
St. Louis.....	Vol. 2, No. 2.....	July 8, 1922.
Philadelphia.....	Vol. 2, No. 10.....	Sept. 2, 1922.
Baltimore.....	Vol. 2, No. 13.....	Sept. 23, 1922.
Los Angeles.....	Vol. 2, No. 24.....	Dec. 9, 1922.
Cincinnati.....	Vol. 3, No. 5.....	Feb. 3, 1923.
Chicago.....	Vol. 3, No. 8.....	Feb. 24, 1923.

J. W. Fisher, Jr., formerly on the staff of the Market News Service out now Editorial Director of The American Institute of Agriculture, Chicago, recently wrote the editor of Weather, Crops and Markets as follows:

"I was very much interested in reading the description of the Cincinnati produce market in your issue of February 3. Have you described other markets in previous issues and are you planning to cover all of the principal markets? If previous articles have appeared, I will greatly appreciate it if you can send me clippings."

4a. FLORIDA CELERY MOVING UNDER FEDERAL GRADES.

In a letter of Feb. 23 from Robert Bier, at Sanford, Fla., he states:

"I had three cars of celery go out today under Federal grades. I will probably get two cars tomorrow. From now on there should roll 4 to 6 cars daily. I am only using the U. S. No. 1 on celery which I believe will carry through. We have two field diseases - black heart and pink rot which represent at time of cutting - that cause deterioration of celery in transit. I am withholding marking of this stock. We might get all stock in the field so an inspector would pass it as U. S. No. 1, but when it reached market it would be a poor No. 2."

In closing, Mr. Bier says that they hope to put out at least 200 cars of celery under the Federal grades from the Sanford section alone. He is busy educating the growers and packers to understand the need of definite grades. Every claim, every adjustment, and every rejection gives him a chance to push his advocacy of the Federal grades.



March 1, 1923.

5a. WETTER CROPS AND MARKETS.

The Transportation section makes monthly comparisons of shipments reported by telegraph and those reported by mail. During December a certain railroad in South Carolina reported by wire the forwarding of a car of sweet potatoes. As no local freight agent had reported this shipment in his mail summary for the month, the discrepancy was brought to the attention of the Division Superintendent. His reply is quoted below:-

"The above car of 'sweet potatoes' moved from a non-agency station and was reported to us as a car of 'sweet potatoes.' We later learned that, when car reached Cincinnati or thereabouts, some one handling one of the barrels dropped it, and whiskey started trickling out. There were about 200 barrels. This is the reason car was not reported to you on mail report form."

6a. WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS.

Look up the following fruit and vegetable material in Weather, Crops and Markets for last Saturday, Feb. 24:-

Page 161, Description of South Water Street Market, Chicago.

167, Northern Markets Purchasing Mexican Vegetables.

168, Weekly Review, with special paragraph and chart relating to apples.

169, Monthly Review of Peanut Markets.

Summary of January Inspection Work.

Filler regarding Egyptian onion shippers.

170, Potato Situation in Colorado and Idaho.

British Apple Market Prices.

Chile to Ship Olives to U. S.

171, Imperial Valley Lettuce Situation.

Potato Situation in Western New York.

180, Cold Storage Report for Feb. 1, -apples, etc.

181, Acreage and Forecasts of Production of Early Truck Crops.

NEWS ITEMS.

The Agricultural Appropriation Bill for the coming fiscal year was signed on Monday. This carries an appropriation of \$700,000 (an increase of \$295,000) for Market News Work and of \$275,000 (an increase of \$100,000) for Inspection work. What portion of the increased funds will be available for work of the Fruit and Vegetable Division is not known, but allocation of the funds between the various Divisions of the Bureau probably will be made soon.

Please note carefully pages 2 and 3 of The Bureau News for Feb. 27. They contain two items concerning Mr. Sherman's recent trip and the extension of shipping-point inspection in the South. There is also an item regarding the inspection service for Government hospitals in Greater New York.

Attention is called to the proposed grading of oranges in California. Tentative grades have been prepared by the State Bureau of Standardization and as many as 1,000 cars of oranges may be inspected and shipped on the new basis this season. Mr. Butner's share in this work and a general statement as to the new grades was published on page 12 of The New York Produce News for Feb. 24. On page 18 of that paper is a short item concerning Mr. Hauck's work on strawberries in Florida.



March 1, 1923.

NEWS ITEMS (Continued)

On Tuesday, Mr. Robb attended the meeting of State marketing officials of the Middle Atlantic States at Trenton, N. J. He addressed one of the sessions on the work of the News Service and the Inspection Service. On this trip, Mr. Robb also visited our offices in New York and Philadelphia. He is expected back in Washington on Friday, March 2.

On the list of temporary field stations of the Market News Service, it will be noticed that the tentative closing date for Presque Isle and Spokane has been changed to March 10 instead of March 1. After the discontinuance of potato market reports at Presque Isle, J. D. Snow will proceed to the Boston office, where he will assist with the work for a few weeks.

Mrs. Madeline Showalter, of Chicago, has been appointed clerk-typist in the Chicago office of the Market News Service, vice Eric S. Al-Greene.

Mr. Googe's period of leave, mentioned in the last Division Letter, will begin on March 5 and continue for two weeks. During his absence from Fort Worth, Inspector M. C. Gregory and Miss Kelly, clerk, will handle the usual market reporting work at that station.

C. H. Johnson, of the Chicago Inspection force, will remain on leave without pay until the middle of March. His wife is improving slowly from her serious illness but Mr. Johnson will stay with her in Minneapolis.

Glen Wiley, of the California State staff, has gone to Nogales, Ariz., where he will inspect during the next month all such shipments of tomatoes coming from Mexico as are being handled by certain distributors in southern California.

Congratulations to M. L. Bean, of the New York office of the Inspection Service! On Feb. 10 he was married to Anna G. Meyer, of New York, who is associated with the Vanity Fair, Vogue and House and Garden magazines. Their home address is 124 West 78th Street.

H. C. Miller, who has been supervising the shipping-point inspection of potatoes at Caribou, Maine, during February, left there Monday and reached the New York office Wednesday morning. On his return trip he stopped at Augusta, where he conferred with C. M. White, Chief of the State Division of Markets.

R. S. Lumbard, in charge of the market reporting work at Kansas City, was sick for several days last week and unable to attend to official duties.

Since February 21, the itinerary of E. E. Conklin, Jr., has been as follows: Feb. 21 & 22, Detroit; Feb. 23 & 24, Cleveland; Feb. 25 & 26, Buffalo; Feb. 27, Elba and Rochester, N. Y.; Feb. 28, Williamson and East Williamson, N. Y.; March 1, North Rose and Rose, N. Y., and then to Avoca. During the first 10 days of this month, he will be at Avoca, assisting State men who are handling shipping-point inspections of potatoes. His mail address is General Delivery, Avoca. After March 10, Mr. Conklin probably will visit our offices and the trade in Cincinnati, St. Louis, Chicago and Indianapolis.

Miss Dena Hammer is still in the Episcopal Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital but is gradually improving and hopes to be out by the end of this week.

Adner D. Miller, of New York, visited the Washington office for a few days this week to secure some information for the use of the Fruit Auction Company. He has prepared a short article on the American Fruit and Produce Auctions, which will probably be published in Weather, Crops and Markets at an early date.

The last Division Letter was late in being distributed because of the holiday on Feb. 22. This D. L. was late in reaching you because Thursday was moving day again in Washington. (See item on first page regarding the move.)



TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTS

Market News Service on Fruits and Vegetables.

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will close
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	347	Mrs. L. B. Gerry	Apples	Sept. 26	Mar. 10
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	342	J. D. Snow	Potatoes	Sept. 13	Mar. 10
ROCHESTER, N.Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	337	C. L. Brown	Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage*	Sept. 11 Sept. 13 Sept. 23 Oct. 2	Oct. 11* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 27*
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	345	C. E. Schultz	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS. Chamber of Commerce	394	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 221 Ashton Bldg.	395	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples*	Oct. 17 Oct. 17	May 1 Nov. 11*
GREELEY, COLO. 214 Post Office Bldg.	335	G. E. Prince	Potatoes	Dec. 4	Apr. 15
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	W. H. Hall	Lettuce	Jan. 9	Mar. 24
SANFORD, FLA. Chamber of Commerce	910	J. D. Evers	Celery	Jan. 22	Mar. 31

The following stations probably will open on date indicated:

HAMMOND, LA.	302	Unassigned	Berries	Mar. 26	May 5.
LAREDO, TEX.	301	V. D. Callanan	Onions	Mar. 26	May 12

\* Report discontinued.

V. D. Callanan, temporarily in Chicago.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE
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1b. PROPER DESIGNATION FOR WESTERN LETTUCE. (Effective March 9)

In the Division Letter of Feb. 15, Par. 6b, there was published a letter from Mr. Hall regarding the true variety name of the lettuce being raised in Imperial Valley. Mr. Hall suggested that this variety name should be used instead of the term "Iceberg." The opinions of market men regarding such a change were requested. Replies indicate considerable opposition to such a change, although the use of the term "New York Special," followed by the word "Iceberg" or the phrase "Generally called Iceberg," in parenthesis probably would eventually educate the trade to the use of the new term.

The definite designation of the variety shipped from Imperial Valley as "New York Special," however, might be subject to considerable criticism. Eastern seed catalogues apparently list this variety by at least three names, viz., "New York," "Wonderful" and "Los Angeles." If these are not the same variety, they are at least very similar and, as varieties of lettuce are not usually stamped on packages, it is impracticable to ask the men on the markets to identify them.

After careful consideration, it has been decided to use the following procedure, suggested by several of the men. It will be effective March 9:

On "MU" (Lettuce) page of the code, change

AF	Big Boston	to read	→	AH	Iceberg	to read
AF	Big Boston type, and			AH	Iceberg type.	

These changes are made because the exact variety does not seem to be important commercially nor does it affect the market price. There is a marked difference between the Iceberg and Big Boston types, however, and the adoption of this policy will be in line with the policy now in vogue in quoting cabbage.

2b. QUOTING DELIVERED SALES ON AN F.O.B. BASIS. (Code change, effective March 9)

Reference is made to Division Letter of Dec. 21, Par. 5b, and Division Letter of Jan. 11, Par. 3b, regarding the above subject. Following the issuance of instructions on Dec. 21, which were based upon a hurried and evidently too brief survey of conditions in the principal potato producing sections, many of our field men complained that they could not follow the instructions because of peculiar local conditions. After further consideration, a brief circular letter proposing a new method of handling this type of sales in our reports was mailed to most of the field men and to some of the market station men. The views of the various men continue to be rather widely divergent, although all agree that the present system is resulting in the publication of quotations apparently upon the same basis, but really not comparable, and that it probably is best to change this system. From the various phrases suggested we have evolved the following one:

"Carloads delivered sales, (freight only deducted), \_\_\_\_\_ rate."

Effective March 9, on the "GOB" (Miscellaneous F.O.B. Phrases) page of the code, change

GOBUN	Sales for immediate shipment	to read:
GOBUN	Carloads delivered sales, (freight only deducted), _____ rate	

(footnote) / When decoding, insert in blank space name of town on which rate is based. When coding report, unless this town is same as that at head of f.o.b. report, precede "GOBUN" by proper town name, as "CANTILLAS GOBUN"

If it is thought desirable, a brief notice may be inserted in the bulletins explaining that prices quoted following this new phrase are upon the same basis as previously quoted prices under the caption of "Carloads f.o.b. usual terms."



March 1, 1923.

3b. IMPERIAL VALLEY PEA CROP.

Writing under date of Feb. 20, W. H. Hall sent the following letter from El Centro, California:-

"I have been gathering some data on the Imperial Valley pea crop which may be of interest to you:

"The acreage this season is estimated at around 1,500 acres for Imperial Valley and is pretty generally scattered from Calipatria to Calexico, with the heaviest planting around Brawley. Conditions up to the first of the year indicated that there would be a good crop, but frosts early in January damaged the first crop and frosts later in the month almost entirely destroyed the first crop and damaged the second crop or picking. Frosts in early February destroyed most of what remained of the second crop. There has been some picking of the second crop for the past three weeks, but, owing to the heavy expense incidental to picking and sorting out the frosted pods, owners of fields that are badly damaged have stopped harvesting until the third picking is ready, which will be from 15 to 25 days, and some farmers have plowed up their fields for late cantaloupe planting. However, certain fields show much less damage than others and in these fields picking is going on, with the volume increasing. The first car went out from Brawley by express on Feb. 13 and two cars had gone out by freight a few days previously. The carlot movement this year is about two weeks ahead of last year's carlot movement, total shipments last year being 41 cars -- 23 express and 18 freight. The frost damage to this year's crop makes it difficult to estimate, but it is believed that the yield will not exceed 15 bags of 50 lbs. each to the acre. Shipments are expected to continue until around April 9 or a little later."

4b. CLASSIFICATION OF SERVICES OVER LEASED WIRE DURING FEBRUARY.

During February, 91 questions relating to market reports were settled over the leased wire, exclusive of 24 voluntary corrections which were sent. This is a decrease of 2 services from the record in January:-

Name of Market Serviced	Total number of services to Markets	Errors by Markets	Insufficient Information by Markets	Telegraphic Errors	Unclassified Services to Markets	Voluntary Corrections
Baltimore	6	2	2	1	1	
Boston	13	7	3		5	2
Chicago	15	8	2	3	2	
Cincinnati	7	1	1	2	3	
Kansas City #	10	1		5	4	1
Minneapolis *	8	4	1		3	2
New York	7	2		2	3	9
Philadelphia	14	4	4	1	5	10
Pittsburgh	4	3		1		
St. Louis	7	2	2	2	1	
Total	91	34	15	17	25	24

# Including Ft. Worth, coded by Kansas City.

\* Including St. Paul.

March 1, 1923.

5b. CODE CHANGES ON "NA-NE," "PA-PE" AND SUPPLEMENT TO "T AND V" PAGES.

As the word "grade" is superfluous, in such expressions as "U.S. Grade No. 1," eliminate in your code books, effective immediately upon receipt of this Division Letter, the word "grade" in the following expressions:

On "NA-NE" (Onions) page:-

NEG	U.S. Grade No. 1
NEJ	U.S. Grade No. 2
NEM	U.S. Grade No. 3
NET	U.S. Boiler grade

On "PA-PE" (White Potatoes) page:-

PEW	U.S. Grade No. 1
PEX	U.S. Grade No. 2

On Supplement to "T and V" page:-

OQ	U.S. Grade No. 1
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"NEG" will then read "U.S. No. 1," etc.

6b. LETTERS AND REPORTS SHOULD SHOW YOUR LOCATION AND SIGNATURE PLAINLY.

A few of the market station men, when sending information to Washington forget to begin with the name of their city and to end with a clear signature. Hence, it is difficult sometimes to ascertain the source of the letter unless the envelope in which it was mailed can be found. Please always show your location and sign letters plainly.

E. W. Stillwell,  
Specialist in Market News,  
(Fruits and Vegetables)



March 1, 1923.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK FEB. 19 - 24, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)			Average Time			Total Number		
			Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Eapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted & Delivered
<b>EASTERN CIRCUIT</b>								
Philadelphia -	Misc.		1:30	1:53	23	11	3,870	75
New York -	Misc.	R	1:14	1:41	27	8	4,050	552
Boston -	Misc.	M	1:29	2:04	35	9	2,231	300
Washington -	Misc.		12:50	2:12	82	8	2,496	--
<b>WESTERN CIRCUIT</b>								
St. Louis -	Misc.	Q	12:55	1:13	18	10	3,090	325
Cincinnati -	Misc.	Q	1:53	2:21	28	8	3,460	650
Kansas City -	Misc.	Q	1:15	1:45	30	8	3,735	115
Pittsburgh -	Misc.		1:19	1:50	31	8	2,552	49
Minneapolis -	Misc.		1:15	1:48	33	10	7,150	93
Chicago -	Misc.		12:45	2:17	92	9	4,065	1,396
Washington - (Nat'l) BFHLMOR#6 P'nuts, Ship. Infr.						84	34,708	1,939
TOTAL			1:14#	1:54#	40#	173	71,507	5,054
" previous week			12:50#	1:33#	43#	203	89,512	7,153
<b>WESTERN OFFICE (FEB. 12-17)</b>								
Los Angeles -	Misc. LR#3		3:12	4:08	56	17	13,767	--
" "	" previous week		3:15	4:09	44	18	13,755	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date						1,634	799,579	48,096

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK FEB. 19 - 24, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
El Centro -	L	12:44	2:47	3,196	463	15	--
Grand Rapids -	R	11:59	1:42	6,585	1,310	--	--
Greeley -	R	12:04	12:45	5,521	1,098	--	--
*Idaho Falls -	R	2:10	2:43	2,505	835	--	--
*Presque Isle -	R	2:20	3:12	4,380	1,451	--	--
Rochester -	BR	2:26	3:19	2,703	511	1	--
Sanford -	H	2:20	4:06	2,776	518	1	--
*Spokane -	B	12:50	3:50	2,633	825	1	--
Waupaca -	R	12:07	2:11	5,455	1,091	1	--
TOTAL		1:13#	2:44#	35,754			
" previous week		1:30#	2:51#	39,843			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				332,726			

# Average time. \*Reports 3 times a week.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 1,130,403.



March 1, 1923

FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE1c. YELLOW FEE SLIPS FOR CERTIFICATE COPIES.

A supply of yellow fee slips, F.P.I.-2c, was recently forwarded to all Inspection offices. These should be used for the fourth copies of fee bills for copies of inspection reports, and should be sent to "Audits and Accounts" as directed in Division Letter of Jan. 25, Par. 7c. This will take the place of the extra white copy which it was directed at that time to use for this purpose.

2c. NEW COPIES OF NEW YORK STATE APPLE GRADING LAW.

One copy of Circular 236, New York State Apple Grading Law and its Application, is being mailed to each office that is likely to receive shipments of New York apples. This contains the interpretation of the New York State law and should be carefully read by all Inspectors. Your attention is especially called to the definition of good color given on Page 7, which explains that good color refers to quantity rather than quality of red color.

3c. SENDING IN WEEKLY AND MONTHLY REPORTS.

Several copies of weekly reports have not been received from some field offices and, in some instances, reports have been delayed for several days because they were clipped with letters of transmittal that were addressed to "Disbursing Clerk" or to "Audits and Accounts". In the future be sure to send all such reports, as well as correspondence and carbon copies of correspondence to F. G. Robb instead of including it in envelopes addressed to either of the other offices. Material clipped with letters of transmittal is always delayed and may not reach this office at all.

4c. DIRECTIONS FOR CERTIFICATES COVERING MORE THAN ONE SHEET.

If inspection of a carlot covers two varieties or two brands of a single product and one certificate does not afford sufficient space for complete treatment, two certificates bearing consecutive numbers may be issued on this car. The fee for the inspection, which will be for a single carlot, should appear on only one certificate. In the "Fee" space on the other certificate, reference should be made to the number of certificate which bears the fee, in the same way as suggested in connection with certificates on carlots of mixed products.

If more space is desired under only one or two headings, a portion of an old certificate bearing the necessary headings may be used for the part which cannot be placed on the main certificate and pasted to the back of first page. The words "See next page" should end the statement on the first page, while the words "Continued from Page 1" should introduce the extended statement on the second page. Because of the difference in the form of the introductory statement of the old and new certificates, only such portion of the second page as is necessary should be used for the extended statement. The Inspector's name should appear on all copies of both pages.



5c. NEW STRAIN OF CELERY IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

On Feb. 17 Mr. Butner, Supervising Inspector in southern California, wrote as follows concerning celery in that section:

"I have just noted with a great deal of interest in the last Division Letter Mr. Bier's comments regarding the new strain of Florida celery. The same strain of celery is also grown in California to a limited extent and I believe that the growers here have experienced the same difficulties as in Florida.

"The largest acreage of this variety is in San Diego County and the principal loading station is Chula Vista, about 4 miles from the Mexican border. The soil in which this celery is grown is a kind of adobe, and is so heavy that the celery cannot be banked, which is the usual method of blanching. It is necessary to use boards or paper, which make the blanching process a very expensive operation.

"I was in a field yesterday near Chula Vista and it was interesting to note the difference between the quality of the stock grown according to two different methods in two adjoining patches on the same ranch. Several acres were planted in double rows and the stalks were so close together that the celery was self-blanching. The stock is coarse, pithy, with little or no heart formation, and grows very tall, - in fact, so tall it cannot be properly packed. In the other patch there was wider spacing in and between the rows which permitted the use of paper to complete the blanching process. This celery is a nice length, not so coarse or pithy, and has a good heart formation.

"Although most of the shipments are inspected at shipping point, it is needless to say that not all of them meet the requirements of U. S. Grade No. 1. The principal defect is split stalks, and some of the stalks are so badly split that they cannot be made No. 1 by trimming. The shippers have found that the new strain of celery does not carry well, and most of the shipments are being marketed in the West, very few finding their way east of the Mississippi River. The celery is so large that buyers are discriminating against it and it has been necessary to do more than the usual amount of trimming in order to reduce the size to meet the buyers's demands. At the present time, the cars run mostly to 4 and 4½-dozen sizes, while earlier in the season some cars were shipped in which the 3-dozen size predominated. About 100 cars remain to be shipped and the movement will continue until about the middle of March."

F. G. Robb,

Specialist in Inspection.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 10

March 8, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. DIVISIONAL COMMITTEES HAVE NEW CHAIRMAN.

Referring to my memorandum of December 23, appointing committees on research and publications for this Division, the following changes are made in consequence of the resignation of Admer D. Miller:-

Personnel of the Committee on  
Research will be:

H. W. Samson, chairman  
F. G. Robb  
E. W. Stillwell

The Committee on Publications, particularly  
charged with the preparation of commodity  
bulletins, will be:

H. W. Samson, chairman  
Geo. B. Fiske  
Harold J. Clay

(Signed) Wells A. Sherman,  
Specialist in Charge,  
Fruit and Vegetable Division.

2a. CONDITIONS IN RIO GRANDE VALLEY, TEXAS.

J. A. Hunter, of the Austin office, recently submitted the following excerpt from a report of a trip to the Rio Grande Valley, made by his chief, T. R. Bolin, State Marketing Agent. The paper is dated February 21:

"I have made Harlingen, Mercedes, La Feria, San Benito and Brownsville. There was an 8-inch rain over this section last week which practically suspended all shipping of vegetables for the time being. The Valley is not shipping the stuff it once did; in fact, they are preparing for a large cotton acreage this year. Last year they had about 60,000 acres; this year it will run about 120,000. The cabbage acreage is short, in fact not many being shipped. Some few beets and carrots moving in good weather. Mercedes is the principal shipping point. Had quite a lengthy conference with the California Fruit Exchange there today. They are anxious for State and Federal Inspection and wish it put on by April 1st, so as to take care of the cantaloupe deal. The Valley will have between 1,200 and 1,500 acres of cantaloupes this year. The San Benito and Valley Traffic Association is out of business and not functioning."

3a. FROST DAMAGE IN IMPERIAL VALLEY, CALIFORNIA.

On March 5, W. H. Hall, of the El Centro office, wired as follows:-

"Lowest official temperature last night Imperial Valley 32° but some sections recorded unofficial 30°. Heavy frost. Damage to cantaloupes hard to determine but apparently at least 5%; tomatoes 10% and confined largely to fields with shelters removed. Damage to lettuce slight except from heavy rain yesterday."



4a. WRONG MARKETING METHODS.

In the Division Letter for February 23, page 80, there was copied an Account Sales, which was originally printed in the Fargo (N. Dak.) "Forum." It showed net returns to the shipper of \$1.50 for a carload of potatoes sold by the Minnesota Potato Exchange at Minneapolis. The clipping quoted in the Division Letter had been sent to the Secretary by James A. McHattie, of Buffalo, N. Dak. His letter (and the clipping) was referred to this Bureau for reply. Mr. Sherman wrote Mr. McHattie the following important letter on March 1. It should be carefully read by all technical employees of this Division, because it points out clearly some of the wrong marketing methods evidently used by the grower who had shipped the car of potatoes in question. The principal paragraphs of Mr. Sherman's reply are as follows:

"We appreciate your courtesy in sending the clipping from the Fargo 'Forum;' concerning the very low returns which a shipper at Leal, N.D., received for a carload of potatoes recently sold in Minneapolis. In checking up the price at which these potatoes were sold, we find that it is closely in line with the price on the Chicago carlot market about the same date. Sacked stock from Wisconsin, U. S. Grade No. 1, was selling in Chicago on January 17 at 80¢-\$1.00 per 100 lbs., with bulk stock ranging 50¢-\$1.05.

"This season's potato crop, as you probably know, was the largest on record, amounting to almost 452,000,000 bushels, all but 30,000,000 of which were produced in the late or main-crop states. In these late potato states there was still on hand January 1 more than 125,000,000 bushels of potatoes, about 85% of which was yet in the hands of growers. In view of the heavy production and the large stocks on hand January 1, it is not surprising that prices have been low.

"I am not sure from your letter that you are yourself a grower of potatoes or personally interested in the marketing of this crop. I feel, however, that I should point out what I conceive to be certain misunderstandings concerning the sale of the car Soc 150510, which was so prominently featured in the Fargo 'Forum' clipping which was enclosed with your letter. It seems quite evident from the printed comment beneath the reproduction of Account Sales that the editor of the 'Forum' also misunderstood some of the facts. The Account Sales seems to indicate that this car of potatoes weighing 42,000 lbs. was sold at a price of 80¢ per cwt. and brought \$330.

"The details which follow, however, show very plainly that no one ever paid \$336 for this car of potatoes, so it is quite evident that the price of 80¢ per cwt. was the price agreed upon in advance, but not the price which was actually paid.

"It is quite evident that sound marketing methods were not followed in this transaction. An allowance or deduction of 5¢ per cwt. was made after arrival because of poor quality. This allowance took \$21 from the agreed price. In addition, there was a shrinkage of 3650 lbs., which I judge means that more than 1 and 1/2 tons of potatoes were thrown away after arrival at market. This caused a deduction from the agreed price of \$27.22 more. I note that an inspection fee of \$4 was incurred. This was no doubt paid to the state of Minnesota for official inspection in Minneapolis since our Federal inspector in that city has not included this car in his report of inspections during that period. We do not understand the charge of \$28.20 opposite the words 'Frt. Investigate.' It seems to us that the shipper might properly ask the Minnesota Potato Exchange for a further explanation of that item. (Continued on next page.)



"If the shrinkage of 3630 lbs., and the damage to the quality of the potatoes remaining resulted from freezing in transit or other negligence of the carrier, the shipper probably has just grounds for a claim. It seems to us very likely, however, that the chief difficulty arises from the failure of the shipper to follow correct marketing methods or to give heed to the warnings repeatedly issued by state and Federal departments against the shipping of any potatoes this season which did not at least meet the requirements of the U. S. No. 1 grade. In the first place the writer personally visited North Dakota last fall and assisted the state in inaugurating a system of joint state and Federal inspection at shipping points. Had the shipper in this case availed himself of that service he could, for a fee of \$3.50, have obtained a certificate which would have been prima facie evidence in any United States court as to the grade and quality of the stock which he shipped. This certificate would have shown him whether his potatoes were up to grade, and if they were not he should have resorted them and kept at home the defective stock which, to the extent of more than 1 and 1/2 tons, was thrown out at Minneapolis and brought absolutely nothing, and which also caused a reduction of 5¢ in the price of all the other stock due to poor quality. This precaution alone should have saved the shipper \$43.72 on this car. The receiver would then have had no ground upon which to refuse to accept the car or to pay the full price agreed upon. It is to be assumed that the car would have been unloaded promptly and there would have been no \$2 charge for Heater Detention, and probably no \$28.20 for 'Frt Investigate'. If we are right as to this, and we think we are, the shipper might have saved an additional \$30.20. With these savings, and by substituting good potatoes for the 3630 lbs. of shrinkage, this car would have netted the shipper about \$80 instead of \$1.30.

"We wish that these facts might have as much publicity as was given to the Account Sales itself, for there were probably many hundreds, if not thousands, of cars of potatoes shipped from Dakota and Minnesota points this year on which the losses, due to bad marketing methods, may easily be calculated at from \$25 to \$50 per car.

"Official inspection at point of origin by a combined State and Federal agency has been available to shippers this year for the first time. In many sections, and especially in North Dakota, this service has not been used to the extent that it should have been. Experiences like that referred to in your letter should prompt the growers to pay more attention to the suggestions of those whose entire time is given to the study of the marketing problem, and to use the aids, both in the form of market reports and inspection services, which Congress has provided for their benefit."

#### 5a. NEW FORM FOR WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS.

Effective this Saturday, March 10, Weather, Crops and Markets will be printed in a new form. There will be but two columns on a page instead of three and all headings will be simplified. Opening pages will be devoted to a summary of the week's conditions and other changes in the form and contents will be made. Statistical tables are to be expanded and increased and general text will be abbreviated. These changes are being made on recommendation of a special committee appointed by the Chief some months ago and are approved by the Secretary's office.

We will be interested to learn the psychological and practical effect of the changes on readers of the paper. Tell us how the new paper impresses you, and advise us of any favorable or unfavorable comments you may have.

The issue for March 3 contains a mid-season review of sweet potatoes (page 185); a special review of the cabbage markets (p. 190); a list of articles on city produce markets (p. 191); British apple market prices (p. 195); and a statement of weather conditions and their effect (p. 196).



6a. FURTHER PROGRESS WITH FEDERAL GRADES IN FLORIDA.

The following letters speak for themselves of the work being accomplished by C. W. Hauck in Florida. The first letter is dated February 28:-

"We began on Feb. 24 to send a portion of the daily shipments of U.S. No. 1 berries from Plant City to S.H. and E.H. Frost, New York. Their Mr. Haines, who I understand is Sec'y-Treas. of the company, was here and has agreed to give these berries publicity in New York through the trade papers, to have placards printed to hang in the store and to keep the returns for the graded and ungraded stock distinctly separate.

"A meeting of the stockholders of the Plant City Growers' Assn. has been called for next Saturday afternoon, at which time we will discuss the matter of packing their tomatoes, cucumbers and beans in the central packing-house owned by the organization in Plant City. A number of the prominent shippers here have expressed themselves as unwilling to handle any farm-packed cukes this season.

"The Manatee County Fair at Bradentown last week was well attended. Mr. Green, Secy. of the Fair, and Mr. Briggs, the County Agent, gave me generous assistance and we had a very good exhibit. It attracted a lot of interest. Besides the pictures, I displayed potatoes, cucumbers, celery, strawberries and peppers. The peppers were graded for me by several of the principal shippers in that section and I expect to use the same standards in suggesting Federal grades for peppers, as they strike me as being sound in principle. In my recommendations I shall substitute the terms 'U.S. Fancy', 'U.S. No. 1' and 'U.S. No. 2' for those now in use: 'Extra Fancy', 'Fancy' and 'Choice.' I have these tentative grades prepared and expect to check up on them in the Ft. Myers and Bradentown sections within the next two or three weeks.

"During the week of March 5 to 10 I shall visit Wauchula, Leesburg, Williston, Webster and Center Hill in the interest of the cucumber grades. Early in the following week I probably will be in Kissimmee and Winter Garden and may get to Sanford to see Mr. Bier."

The second (supplementary) letter is dated March 4:-

"The stockholders' meeting of the Plant City Growers' Association was held yesterday afternoon as scheduled. We had about 35 present. At the conclusion of about two hours' discussion, the vote was unanimous to authorize the Board of Directors to equip their packing-house in Plant City, before the opening of the vegetable shipping season, for the centralized packing of tomatoes, cucumbers and beans. The Federal grades will be used as the basis for the pack and I have agreed to spend some time with their crew when they begin operating.

"We have begun to get some convincing returns from our efforts with the strawberries. For about a week, I have learned, all shipments, including both graded and ungraded berries, were arriving in bad condition, due partly to frost in transit and partly to damp, sultry weather here before shipment. However, the last two days for which the returns have been received show a differential of 7¢ and 5¢ a quart, respectively, in favor of the U.S. No. 1 stock. By the time I return I hope to be able to give you some good figures from both Pittsburgh and New York, I do not hope to secure such a high premium very frequently, but if I can show the growers an average premium of no more than a penny a quart for the better method, they will be convinced. A fraction of a cent a quart will take care of the added expense."



5 ITEMS.

The head office of the Inspection Service, Room 522 Bieber Bldg., has been decorated with a large display board, size 4 x 7 ft., on which a dozen photographs, in natural colors, have been placed for the information of visitors. These photographs represent diseased specimens of fruit and vegetables, showing various stages of decay. The entire display is very attractive. Above the pictures is a card bearing the inscription: "Some Reasons for Inspection."

V. D. Callanan will leave Chicago on Friday evening for about 10 days' vacation at Malden, a suburb of Boston, Mass. He will proceed to Texas in time to open the Laredo field station on March 26.

Leaving Washington last Monday, F. M. Patton, in charge of transportation work for the Market News Service, is on a week's trip to Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York. He is conferring with certain railroads regarding improvements in the telegraphic reports of shipments.

Since the closing of the Presque Isle field station, the mailing list in that territory will be served from Boston during the remainder of the season.

With the discontinuance of apple market reports at Spokane for this season, Mrs. L. B. Gerry will continue to handle the mail reports of shipments, as rendered by local freight agents in Northwestern States.

Radiophone reports in Washington were suspended yesterday and part of today because of damage to the apparatus at Arlington station during the recent snow and rain storm. Mr. Boree broadcasts the fruit and vegetable reports.

W. J. Bertush, of the Chicago office, has secured a number of excellent photographs of operations in a peanut butter and salting factory in that city, for use in the proposed bulletin on peanut marketing.

O. D. Miller, who is studying the financing of truck crops in Florida, recently visited Lakeland, Plant City, Tampa, Palmetto, Bartow, Wauchula and Fort Myers. He will be at Moore Haven until March 10; Miami, March 12-15, and at Hastings until the 20th.

On the list of Inspectors, note should be made of the permanent transfer of M. L. Henry from the Pittsburgh staff to the New York staff. He has been assisting in New York for some time but returned to Pittsburgh this week to attend to personal matters there, and will be back in New York permanently next week. When the Pittsburgh inspections increase to the extent that an additional man will be required, it is planned to have R. N. Balster, of the Chicago office, proceed to Pittsburgh and assist there for some time.

Paul M. Williams, who resigned from the Market News Service in November, 1921, was a visitor to the Washington office during the past week. His former associates were glad to greet him. Mr. Williams is a carlot broker of fruits and vegetables at Hutchinson, Kans.

The Washington market has been reported recently by Edwin Crosthwait. Aaron Stambaugh has had to be absent on account of the serious illness of his mother, but returned to duty this morning.

In addition to other work for the U. S. Shipping Board, the Inspection staff in New York has been requested to take over the inspection of supplies for laid-up vessels of the Shipping Board in New York harbor. Quite a number of freight boats are not now in operation and are manned by "skeleton" crews sufficient to keep the vessels in condition. H.H. Henderson, of the Norfolk office, will handle similar work for laid-up vessels in Hampton Roads.

NEWS ITEMS (Continued)

R. E. Snoemaker, of the Grand Rapids office, attended a meeting of the Michigan Potato Growers' Exchange at Cadillac on February 27, and participated in discussions concerning shipping-point inspection, etc.

W. D. Googe, of Fort Worth, is in Washington at present and can be reached through this office until about March 15.

After more than three years of excellent service in the Domestic Wool Section, Mrs. Ethel M. Mague has tendered her resignation, effective March 15. This Saturday will be her last day at the office. Mrs. Mague has been handling the distribution work for the Wool Section, which involves the computation of the proportion of excess profits due each grower who sold 1918 wool to dealers, who in turn sold at a margin beyond that allowed by war-time regulations.

H. V. Demott, auditor of the Domestic Wool Section, left at noon for Chicago, where he will re-audit the accounts of a number of large wool firms who handled part of the 1918 clip. He expects to be absent about 10 days.

"Factors Determining the Price of Potatoes in St. Paul and Minneapolis" is the title of Technical Bulletin 10, recently issued by the University of Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, at University Farm, St. Paul. Dr. Holbrook Working is the author of this bulletin, and for the period 1917-1921 used the potato market prices secured by our Minneapolis office. Dr. Working's price-predicting formulas are of much interest. The bulletin is illustrated with seven good charts, and will be a valuable addition to the bookshelf of any of our technical staff. Copies doubtless can be secured direct from the Agricultural Experiment Station.



March 8, 1923.

# TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTS

Market News Service on Fruits and Vegetables.

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will close
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage*	Sept. 11 Sept. 13 Sept. 23 Oct. 2	Oct. 11* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 27*
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	C. E. Schultz	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS. Chamber of Commerce	894	W. E. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 221 Ashton Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples*	Oct. 17 Oct. 17	May 1 Nov. 11*
GREELEY, COLO. 214 Post Office Bldg.	885	G. E. Prince	Potatoes	Dec. 4	Apr. 15
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	W. H. Hall	Lettuce	Jan. 9	Mar. 24
SANFORD, FLA. Chamber of Commerce	910	J. D. Evers	Celery	Jan. 22	Mar. 31

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

HAMMOND, LA.	802	Unassigned	Berries	Mar. 26	May 5
LAREDO, TEXAS	801	V. D. Callanan	Onions	Mar. 26	May 12
HASTINGS, FLA.	851	J. D. Evers	Potatoes	Apr. 2	May 5

The following stations close on dates indicated:

SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs. L. B. Gerry	Apples	Sept. 26	<u>Closed</u> Mar. 10
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	J. D. Snow	Potatoes	Sept. 13	Mar. 9

\* Report discontinued.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE
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1b. CELERY SITUATION AT SANFORD, FLORIDA.

In a letter of March 2, J. D. Evers writes as follows concerning the celery situation at Sanford:

"The movement of celery is now about at its height. About 300 cars are expected to be shipped out of Sanford this week and a similar amount each week through March. Not more than 300-325 cars can be taken care of, owing to the labor situation and the limited number of cars that can be placed. The local market has now held steady at \$1.65-1.75 per crate for a period of three weeks. The feeling this week, however, has been generally dull and many are looking for a drop in the near future."

2b. SPECIAL REPORTS ISSUED AT ROCHESTER.

During the past week, C. L. Brown, in charge of the Rochester office, issued special reports on western New York celery, carrots and lettuce. The first two are each two pages long and the lettuce report one stencil in length. The celery report shows carlot shipments for principal States during the past seven seasons. Another table shows New York shipments by months this season and by counties and shipping stations; 78 stations are included in the list. A chart, drawn with a stylus at the bottom of this report, shows weekly shipments and New York City jobbing prices for the season. The report on carrots - which, by the way, is probably something never before prepared - includes a table of shipments by stations and by months to the end of 1922. This covers the movement from 56 shipping points and a total of 659 cars during the six months. Leading stations are: Elba 96 cars, Fairport 78, Albion and Marion each 41, Middleport 36, Williamson 34, and Fancher 31 cars. A chart at the bottom of this report shows jobbing prices in New York City from October 29 to February 17, inclusive. The lettuce report shows carlot shipments by months from 42 stations, covering a total of 3,166 cars from June to November, inclusive. Shipments from each of the leading States also are given by months for 1921 and 1922.

It should be explained that the carlot data by stations were obtained from the Washington office, and are based on the monthly mail reports from local freight agents.

3b. WESTERN NEBRASKA POTATOES SELLING AT LOW PRICES.

The agent of the C. B. & Q. Railroad at Bayard, Nebr., made this notation on his mail report for February, which showed no shipments during the month: -(Bayard is about 35 miles south of Alliance)

"While there are approximately 150 carloads of table potatoes in the immediate vicinity, none were shipped on account of no market. Not worth shipping. At public sales they are selling from 5¢ to 8¢ per bushel for hog feed."

E. W. Stillwell,  
Specialist in Market News,  
(Fruits and Vegetables)



March 3, 1923.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK FEB. 26-MCH. 3, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)			Average Time			Total Number		
			Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted & Delivered
<b>EASTERN CIRCUIT</b>								
Philadelphia -	Misc.		1:22	1:46	24	12	4,906	356
New York -	Misc.	R	1:07	1:35	28	11	5,086	556
Boston -	Misc.	M	1:15	2:00	45	13	3,077	300
Washington -	Misc.		12:24	1:47	83	10	3,125	--
<b>WESTERN CIRCUIT</b>								
St. Louis -	Misc.	Q	12:57	1:11	14	14	3,675	400
Cincinnati -	Misc.	Q	2:03	2:23	20	10	4,290	650
Pittsburgh -	Misc.		1:20	1:46	20	10	3,203	49
Kansas City -	Misc.	Q Honey	1:19	1:49	30	10	6,368	--
Chicago -	Misc.		1:34	2:05	31	10	5,097	975
Minneapolis -	Misc.		1:14	1:49	35	12	7,580	132
Washington (Nat'l) REFLMOR P'nuts, Honey Ship. Infrn.							100	
TOTAL							44,426	1,941
" previous week			1:15#	1:49#	34#	212	90,833	5,359
" previous week			1:14#	1:54#	40#	173	71,507	5,054
<b>WESTERN OFFICE (Feb. 19-24)</b>								
Los Angeles -	Misc.	LD#3	3:25	4:22	57	15	11,270	--
"	"	previous week	3:12	4:08	56	17	13,767	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date						1,861	901,682	53,457

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK FEB. 26-MCH. 3, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered		In- crease	De- crease
El Centro -	L	1:19	3:04	3,247	471	2	--
Grand Rapids -	R	11:38	2:08	7,902	1,310	--	--
Greeley -	R	12:52	1:28	6,638	1,200	--	--
*Idaho Falls -	R	2:23	3:15	2,515	838	--	--
*Presque Isle -	R	2:18	3:18	4,361	1,454	--	--
Rochester -	BR	2:26	3:20	3,262	513	--	--
Sanford -	H	1:26	3:00	3,380	530	2	--
*Spokane -	B	1:30	3:50	2,901	826	--	--
Waupaca -	R	12:11	2:13	6,552	1,092	--	--
TOTAL		1:20#	2:51#	40,758			
" previous week		1:13#	2:44#	35,754			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				373,484			

# Average time. \* Reports 3 times a week.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 1,328,663.

March 8, 1923.

FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE1c. ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAKING OUT MONTHLY REPORTS:

Differences in method of reporting mixed carlots and l.c.l. inspection have been noted on monthly report forms. In order to make the practice uniform and enable the Washington office to compile a complete summary of all inspections, the following directions are given:-

Each inspection on which a certificate is issued should be listed by commodity on the second sheet of the monthly report. Unless this is done, no accurate record can be kept of the number of inspections by commodities.

When a car of mixed fruit or vegetables is inspected, it should be reported on sheet 2 directly after the heading "Mixed fruit, etc." and not in the space for carload or l.c.l. inspections. This will show at the end of the year the total number of mixed cars inspected.

On the first sheet it is not necessary to report the mixed car fees separately unless more than three certificates are issued on a car. When this is done, show the number of carlot fees at \$7.50; there will probably be room for this between the space for carlot and l.c.l. fees. Example:- A mixed car of two commodities on which fees of \$4.00 and \$2.50 are assessed would have one fee in carlot space and one in the l.c.l. space. If two or three certificates on l.c.l. lots are issued, they would be added to the number of l.c.l. fees at \$2.50. If 4 or more are issued, it would be reported as one carlot fee at \$7.50.

Some offices are still using the old monthly report forms that have spaces only for carlot and l.c.l. fees. If you do not have forms that bear the name of "Bureau of Agricultural Economics," please discard your old forms and order some of this new issue.

A few offices class peanuts with fruits. A little inquiry into the character of growth will show that this is a vegetable and should be listed in the vegetable column on the second sheet.

2c. REVISED TABLE OF PACKAGES PER CARLOAD.

One copy of F. & V. Form 33, "Table of Packages Per Carload," is being sent to each large terminal inspection office. This table was revised December 15, 1922, and is quite valuable in determining whether carlot or l.c.l. fees shall be assessed when smaller quantities than a full carload are inspected. Be careful to preserve this copy, as no more are available at this time.

3c. DON'T CONFUSE DRYNESS OF FLORIDA ORANGES WITH FREEZING INJURY.

Considerable complaint is being made of the dryness of Florida Valencia oranges this season. Unless Inspectors are on their guard, it is possible to confuse this with freezing injury. Paragraph 1414 of the Inspector's Handbook describes this defect and should be consulted if you are in doubt.



March 8, 1923.

4c. TENTATIVE CALIFORNIA ORANGE GRADES.

Copies of tentative orange grades issued by the California State Department of Agriculture are being enclosed with the Division Letter to all Inspectors. Mr. Butner reports that all cars of oranges loaded by the Citrus Growers Cash Association at Picoima in the San Fernando district, and at North Pomona and Pachappa in the Riverside district, are being inspected at shipping point. It is also quite probable that numerous inspections will be made for the Randolph Marketing Company, the Stewart Fruit Company and Mutual Orange Distributors.

All inspected cars are being marked so that Inspectors in the terminal markets can restrict their inspections to condition, unless they receive a request for reinspection for grade. In the absence of any other basis for making quality or grade inspections of California oranges, the tentative grades can probably be used as a basis of inspection.

5c. DRIED OUT FORM OF SOFT SCALD.

Mr. Raplee, of the Buffalo office, recently sent in some interesting specimens of Soft Scald on Wenatchee Winesaps. The lesions were generally circular and rather regular in outline and occurred at bruises. In all cases the tissue beneath was dried out, often with large cavities in the flesh. Dr. Brooks, of B.P.I., says that this condition has been noted before in test shipments of Northwestern apples showing Soft Scald. This disease does not usually grow during transit.

6c. ARTICLE ON INSPECTION OF CAULIFLOWER FOR THE HANDBOOK.

A new part of the Inspector's Handbook on "Inspection of Cauliflower" will be mailed to all offices within a few days.

7c. SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION OF BROCCOLI.

Arrangements have been made with the State of Oregon for the shipping-point inspection of broccoli in the Roseburg section. Mr. Kinsey will have supervision of this work for the Federal Department and Mr. Chas A. Park for the State.

It is not known how extensively the service will be used by shippers, but it is expected that inspections will be requested on 200-300 cars. Look carefully for marks of inspection on any cars of this product which you may inspect.

Cc.

## INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1923.

MARKETS	Total	Total	Grand	Total	Inspec-	Declined	FEES ASSESSED		
	Fruits C/L & L.C.L.	Vegetables C/L & L.C.L.		same Month 1922	tions for Carriers	for lack of time	C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certifi- cate Copy Fe
Atlanta	22	41	63	41	6	1	\$236	\$ 10.00	\$ 14
Baltimore	18	18	36	94	1	-	132	7.50	1
Boston	35	57	92	55	9	3	348	17.50	9
Buffalo	13	11	29	32	2	-	100	7.50	-
Chicago	203	92	295	344	69	2	1132	40.00	34
Cincinnati	26	31	57	32	-	-	216	7.50	2
Cleveland	24	61	85	66	11	-	320	12.50	14
Columbus	9	11	20	15	3	-	64	5.00	1
Denver	3	2	5	-	1	-	20	-	1
Detroit	23	40	63	30	9	-	232	12.50	4
Erie	4	2	6	-	1	-	24	-	2
Fort Worth	20	10	30	19	7	-	112	5.00	-
Harrisburg	1	2	3	3	1	-	12	-	-
Houston	29	22	51	13	5	-	134	12.50	6
Indianapolis	16	16	32	36	1	-	120	5.00	3
Kansas City	54	23	77	67	3	-	288	-	2
Los Angeles	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-
Memphis	17	35	52	40	36	-	204	2.50	11
Milwaukee	37	11	48	36	20	-	176	10.00	4
Minneapolis	65	27	92	68	-	8	356	2.50	1
New Orleans	38	46	84	42	32	-	320	10.00	41
New York	213	148	361	501	16	7	1296	92.50	5
Norfolk	14	12	26	23	15	-	104	-	9
Omaha	20	3	23	55	2	-	88	2.50	-
Philadelphia	161	56	217	640	143	-	776	57.50	23
Pittsburgh	33	78	111	195	18	-	428	10.00	34
San Francisco	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
St. Louis	18	77	95	71	22	1	352	12.50	16
Washington	14	31	45	48	14	-	180	-	17
Wichita	8	4	12	-	4	-	64	-	2
Wilkes-Barre	5	7	12	21	5	3	44	-	4
Total	1148	974	2122	2595	456	23	\$7928	\$342.50	\$260

RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections .....	1148	Inspections for Carriers	456
TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections ...	974	Declined for lack of time	23
Grand Total C/L and L.C.L. Inspections ...	2122	Total Fees Assessed	\$8580.00
Decrease from February, 1922 .....	18%		

\* Total Fees Assessed includes \$49.50 for mixed cars inspected in five of the cities.

While this report shows a total decrease of 473 in number of inspections from corresponding month last year, it shows an increase in commercial inspections of 251, railroad inspections having decreased 724.



March 8, 1923.

## 9c. INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING FEBRUARY, 1923.

Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps	Total Number of Inspection s	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS						
		Fruits and Vegetables PASSED	Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED	Total Quantity INSPECTED	Cuts made to comply with speci- fications	Item bill short weight		
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	143		98773	4030	102803	25	0	
	9		6510	1080	7590	0		
NEW YORK	183		181288	4455	185743	1104	0	
	45		205427	390	205817	905		
NORFOLK	0		0	0	0	0	0	
	-		-	-	-	-	-	
PHILADELPHIA	155		188371	12815	201186	1325	0	
	22		15590	150	15850	195		
SAN DIEGO	#		852008	75210	908218	1235	0	
	42		64018	8921	72939	25		
SAN FRANCISCO	127		550464	27805	358349	585	0	
	-		-	-	-	-	-	
SAN PEDRO	#		715565	5957	723555	0	0	
	-		-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL	608		2347473	152402	2479875	4575	0	
	119		291545	10551	302196	1123		

# No record of number of inspections.

At the request of the Navy Department the New York office inspected approximately 12,000 pounds for the laid-up ships of U. S. Shipping Board during February. Inspections made by the New York office for U. S. Health Hospitals amounted to 79,860 lbs. passed and 45 inspections.

The New York office also inspected for the United States Lines 362,975 lbs. of fruits and vegetables, of which 12,821 lbs. were rejected and 320 lbs. cut. In addition, 60,000 lbs. of fruits and vegetables were inspected during February for the Munson Steamship Company at their Hoboken Pier.

No supply ships loaded at Norfolk during February.

The San Pedro office reports the following in addition to the fruits and vegetables inspected as given above:- Other items passed: Butter 35,889 lbs.  
" " " 8,215 lbs.  
Total: 44,104 lbs.

F. G. Robb,  
Specialist in Inspection.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 11

March 15, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. MAP OF DEPARTMENT BUILDINGS IN WASHINGTON.

A map of the Department reservation and the immediate vicinity is being sent to each office with this Division Letter. If you do not receive one of the maps, ask the man in charge of your office to let you examine his copy. The diagram ought to be of much interest to all employees who have never visited Washington. If you have the idea that all branches of the Department of Agriculture are in one building or in proximity to each other, this map will show the error of your impression.

The Department of Agriculture reservation lies directly west of the Capitol a distance of 12 blocks. It is a part of The Mall, the large system of parks extending westward from the Capitol to the Lincoln Memorial (on the bank of the Potomac), and northward from the Washington Monument to the White House. The axis dividing the Northwest from the Southwest section of the city is a direct line from the Capitol, through the Agricultural grounds, through the Monument to the Lincoln Memorial. The Monument is just west of our grounds, about two blocks distant, and is visible from all the buildings in the group shown on the map. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing is one block southwest of this reservation, near the Tidal Basin. The White House is about 8 blocks to the northwest.

The reservation itself is a beautiful park, one of the prettiest in Washington. The flower gardens just adjacent to Bldg. 1 (on the north side) are a delight to the eye at all seasons of the year except mid-winter. Lying as it does between 12th and 14th Streets and extending from B Street, N. W., to B Street, S. W., the reservation covers 8 city blocks. The territory to the South is a residence section, but scattered among the dwellings are a dozen or more large buildings occupied by the Department, in addition to those on the reservation proper. Our own building, the BIEBER BUILDING, is No. 10, and is now connected by a bridge with No. 11, in which is located the Crop Estimates force.

All of the principal buildings are numbered, and the explanatory key at the right of the map shows in a general way the branch or branches of the Department occupying each structure. Lack of space prevents the key or list from being complete. The Secretary's office and other administrative units are in the central or Administration building, No. 1. The newest building is No. 19, a glass-top complete motion-picture studio and manufacturing plant. This has been occupied only a few weeks. Buildings 4 and 5 are the East and West wings of what will some day be a very large central structure of the Department; they will eventually be connected by means of a main building between them, which structure may displace some of the adjacent smaller buildings. The unnumbered building just South of the West Wing is the heating plant of the Department.

Buildings 2, 4, 5, 10 and 14 need further explanation: In addition to Entomology, the Federal Horticultural Board also occupies a portion of Bldg. 2. The East Wing (No. 4) houses principally the Bureau of Animal

(Continued over)



March 15, 1923.

Industry; the Bureau of Soils; a part of the Bureau of Home Economics; and the Disbursing Clerk of the Department. Payrolls are handled in this building and all Department checks are mailed therefrom. The West Wing (No. 5) is devoted almost entirely to the work of the Bureau of Plant Industry. In our own building (No. 10), the Bureau of Agricultural Economics occupies all floors from the eighth or top floor down to the third floor. Biological Survey is on the second floor, and the Department Library occupies the entire first floor and a portion of the basement. Our Bureau, therefore, has a great advantage in being under the same roof with the Library. Building 14 is given over chiefly to the States Relations Service, but on the fourth floor is Dr. Corbett's section of B.P.I., - Horticultural and Pomological Investigations.

Several important branches of the Department are not shown on the map because they are far distant from this group of buildings. In the upper right-hand corner of the diagram is a partial list of these other buildings. The Weather Bureau is a mile or more to the northwest. The Forest Service is on F Street, several blocks northeast of the reservation. Public Roads is directly north on 14th Street near F Street.

The building designated as "F" and another designated as "C" are temporary structures erected by the State, War and Navy Departments during the world war. Both are close to 7th Street, or 7 blocks east of our building. Building "F" is at B Street, N. W., and Building "C" is at B Street, S. W., 4 blocks apart on 7th Street. The Animal Husbandry section of B. A. I. is located in Building "F," and so is the Dairy Division (Mr. Potts) and the Property and Supply Division (Mr. Pevare) of our own Bureau. In Building "C" are the offices of Mr. Quinn, in charge of Audits and Accounts for this Bureau; also Mr. Bell's section compiling reports of cold storage holdings; and the Cost of Marketing Division; the Division of Farm Organization and Cost of Production, and several smaller offices of this Bureau.

Center Market, lying between 7th and 9th Streets and between B Street, N. W., and Pennsylvania Avenue, occupies two city blocks. Mr. Kitchen, formerly in charge of the Market News Service, is Superintendent of the Market since it is being operated by the Department of Agriculture. Center Market is about half a mile northeast of our building, in the business district.

It should be added that this map was originally published by the Press Service as a part of the Guide Book to the Department, entitled; "What There Is To See in the United States Department of Agriculture." It is by courtesy of the Press Service that copies of the map are being distributed to our branch offices and field stations.

2a. PEACH TREES IN SANDHILL SECTION OF NORTH CAROLINA.

The Sandhill Fruit Growers' Association, on March 1, issued a leaflet giving the total number of bearing and non-bearing peach trees in the Sandhill Section of N. C. In about 250 orchards they counted 444,224 bearing trees, or 67,511 more than a year ago and 176,247 more than two years ago. In 1921 they shipped 281,612 crates from these orchards, a little more than a crate from a tree. In 1922 they shipped 590,625 crates, or an average of 1.6 crates per tree. Total number of carlots shipped last season is given as 1,250. Estimating that an average of 1-3/4 crates per tree will be secured this year, they figure on shipping 777,392 crates, or 1,703 cars, the coming season.

(Continued on next page)



March 15, 1923.

Including bearing and non-bearing trees, the four leading shipping points rank as follows: Aberdeen 216,350 trees; Pinehurst 181,187 trees; Candor 151,496 trees; and Jackson Springs 117,245 trees. The total of 1,453,508 trees is shown by varieties below:

PEACH TREES IN SANDHILL SECTION OF N. C.

<u>Variety</u>	<u>Non-bearing Trees</u>	<u>Bearing Trees</u>
Elberta	560,383	191,761
Belle	263,943	131,017
Hiley	78,929	14,618
Hale	52,131	32,106
Carman	26,502	26,182
Early Rose	12,431	4,029
Augbert	3,600	--
Red Bird	3,257	1,807
Wilma	--	1,620
Bracket	1,400	--
Alexander	1,280	6,991
Indian	1,200	--
Slappey	1,150	4,536
Mayflower	1,100	13,089
Arp	528	6,963
Greensboro	250	7,241
Ray	250	--
White English	250	--
Yellow Swan	--	150
Champion	--	100
Various	700	2,015
Total	1,009,284	444,224

3a.

PRODUCE MARKETS IN EARLY SPRING

Prices Decline after Reaching High Levels. Shipments Heavier.

Supplies of apples, old potatoes, cabbage and onions are rapidly cleaning up. New potatoes from Florida and Bermuda onions from Texas are on the market, and the 1923 shipping season is well started. Eyes of growers and dealers are now to the front; the winter season is past. Delayed harvesting of certain crops in the South and a temporary scarcity of northern products in some markets caused a sharp rise in prices early in March, but somewhat lower levels were resumed by the middle of the month.

February movement of apples, strawberries and 10 principal vegetables was about 34,000 cars. Shipments increased during the first 10 days of March, filling 17,000 cars in that third of the month. In February, 1922, only 30,000 carloads were marketed and approximately 14,000 cars between March 1 and 10. New cabbage is the only product not showing a movement heavier than that of last spring.

Above are the opening paragraphs from the Monthly Review of Fruits and Vegetables, issued today. Then follow short paragraphs on each of the leading commodities. This review, released on the 15th of each month, takes a backward glance over a much longer period than the regular weekly review and summarizes the developments of the month. It is intended primarily for monthly papers, but if any of our offices wish to receive it regularly and can make good use of it their names will be added to the mailing list on request.



4a. FIRST ARRIVALS OF CALIFORNIA ASPARAGUS.

In a letter received on Monday from Mr. Stanton, of the New York office, the following interesting data were given:-

Record-breaking prices were received for California asparagus in the New York wholesale market the first week of March. Of the first 50 crates which arrived, very large or colossal stock sold at \$48-50, large stock at \$36-40, and the medium and small stock at \$24-30 per crate of a dozen bunches. It is believed that the prices quoted will be maintained for a considerable time, because straight carload shipments were not expected until later in the month.

In early March, 1922, record prices of \$40, \$36, \$30 and \$24 per crate were received for colossal, large, medium and small California asparagus, respectively. Georgia stock at that time sold in a range of \$12 to \$25 per crate, according to size, but the quality did not compare with that of the California stock.

NEWS ITEMS.

Forbes E. Bailey, of Spokane, who was given a cooperative appointment as Agent (District Supervising Inspector) on August 1, was received as a full-time Federal employee on March 10. This action terminates his period of service as District Horticultural Inspector for the 2nd District of Washington and places him wholly in the service of the Federal Government. Mr. Bailey's new title is Assistant Marketing Specialist (Fruits and Vegetables), and he will go to Chicago in the near future to assist with the inspection work in that city or in other markets to which he may be assigned. On page 353 of the Division Letter for October 26, 1922, a statement was given concerning Mr. Bailey's education and previous experience.

G. E. Prince expects to leave Greeley, Colo., this Friday for Hammond, La., where he will operate the field station on strawberries. He has been in charge of field stations in Colorado since last fall. From now until April 15 the potato market reports at Greeley will be issued by Mrs. Dorothy G. Dick, who has been assistant in that office for a number of seasons.

On Wednesday, W. L. Evans left Washington for Chicago. He will assist H. V. DeMott in the auditing of accounts of wool dealers in that city and may be absent for a week.

Since the resignation of Mrs. Ethel Mague from the Wool Section, Mrs. M. E. Lawrence has been placed in charge of the distribution of excess profits to wool growers. She is being assisted at present by Mrs. Lellie A. McDaniel, a new appointee, and beginning on Friday will have another assistant, Paul Niebell, also a new clerk.

Wire trouble resulting from the middlewestern storm on Monday made it impossible to obtain market reports from all offices. This explains the lapse which will be noticed on that date and it should be kept in mind when referring to the mimeographed bulletins in the future. Monday was an "enforced holiday" at quite a number of stations.

Next Monday, Mr. Samson expects to go to Martinsburg, W. Va., to attend a meeting of representatives of horticultural societies of four States: West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania. This gathering is for the purpose of working out apple grades which will be uniform for the common producing districts in these States.



March 15, 1923.

NEWS ITEMS (Continued)

Mr. Sherman also will go on a two week's trip, starting about March 19. His Letter of Authorization permits stops at Baltimore; Newark, Del.; Philadelphia; Trenton, New York; Boston, and Orono, Me. Mr. Sherman will confer with representatives of this Division in branch offices and with State officials and others regarding the program of work on fruits and vegetables. At the State Agricultural College, at Orono, Me., he will deliver an address before the marketing conference to be held in connection with Farmers' Week. This event is scheduled for the 28th.

After six weeks' leave on account of the illness of his wife, C. H. Johnson has resumed his duties on the Inspection staff in Chicago.

On the list of temporary field stations, it will be observed that the opening date for the Hammond office has been advanced to March 21 and the date for opening service on onions at Laredo has been postponed until April 5. Weather conditions may cause other slight changes in these dates.

Porter R. Taylor, Acting Director of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Markets, visited the Washington office this week to confer regarding plans for this season's Market News<sup>and</sup> Inspection service and related matters.

Congratulations are due W.D. Googe, market reporter in Fort Worth. He recently came to Washington on leave and for a very important purpose. On March 12 he was married to Miss Hertha A Bernstein, of Maywood, Va., a suburb of this city. They left on Monday night for a brief visit to Mr. Googe's home in Mississippi and expect to reach Fort Worth by March 19.

E. R. Biddle, of the Philadelphia office, was taken very sick with the grippe last week and had to call for a substitute. W.E. Harrison, of Baltimore, was sent to handle Mr. Biddle's work, and Mr. Crosthwait, of the Washington office, is substituting for Mr. Harrison in Baltimore this week.

M. L. Benn, of the New York inspection staff, was absent a few days recently because of a severe strain resulting from heavy lifting in a car of produce which he was examining.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., was in Cincinnati March 12 to 14. He is scheduled for Indianapolis March 15 - 17; St. Louis, 19 - 21; and Chicago, 22 - 24. He is still working on a possible revision of the onion grades, conferring with dealers and others interested in this matter.

On page 13 of the Resorts section of last Sunday's New York Times there was published an extensive article concerning the New York market. F. F. George, who prepares press material in this Bureau, is the author of the article. It is entitled: "Feeding New York a Big Job Which Keeps Host of Farmers Busy." The story is well worth reading, if one would gain a proper conception of the size and importance of the New York market.

Weather, Crops and Markets in its new form appeared for the first time last Saturday, March 10. Page 201 contains a brief summary of the fruit and vegetable situation (written by Mr. Marquis). The weekly review appears on page 206, and the new-style table on page 207. At the foot of page 211 are two short items, the one on strawberry grades being used in Florida and the other on potato grading in the State of Washington. An article on Mexican bananas appears on page 215. This week's paper, to be dated March 17, will contain 6 or 7 pages of fruit and vegetable material, in addition to much information from Crop Estimates.

March 15, 1923.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTS

Market News Service on Fruits and Vegetables.

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will close
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage*	Sept. 11 Sept. 13 Sept. 23 Oct. 2	Oct. 11* Mar. 31 Mar. 31 Jan. 27*
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	C. E. Schultz	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS. Chamber of Commerce	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 221 Ashton Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples*	Oct. 17 Oct. 17	May 1 Nov. 11*
GREELEY, COLO. 214 Post Office Bldg.	885	Mrs. D. G. Dick	Potatoes	Dec. 4	Apr. 15
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	W. E. Hall	Lettuce	Jan. 9	Mar. 24
SANFORD, FLA. Chamber of Commerce	910	J. D. Evers	Celery	Jan. 22	Mar. 31

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

HAMMOND, LA.	802	G. E. Prince	Berries	Mar. 21	May 5
LAREDO, TEXAS	801	V. D. Callanan	Onions	Apr. 5	May 12
HASTINGS, FLA.	851	J. D. Evers	Potatoes	Apr. 2	May 5

\*Report discontinued.

J. D. Snow temporarily in Boston office.  
V. D. Callanan on leave at Malden, Mass.



March 15, 1923.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE
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10. CONDITIONS IN GREELEY SECTION.

On March 7, G. E. Prince, in charge of the Greeley field station in northern Colorado, wrote:-

"Potato shipments to date from the Greeley district amount to 2,222 cars, as compared with 2,784 cars to corresponding date last season. Dealers are of the opinion that total movement could be as large this season as last, but that the shipping may be drawn out over a long period and that it will probably remain dull until the latter part of April; also that the movement from now on will depend largely upon conditions in competing sections."

2b. ADDITIONAL NOTES ON FLORIDA CELERY.

In a letter of March 7, Mr. Evers, of the Sanford field station, makes the following additional comments on Florida celery:

"Shipments of celery from Sanford continue to be heavy, the weekly movement now ranging from 325 to 350 cars. Close to 1,500 cars are expected to be shipped this month from this section, and about 1,000 during April and the remainder of the season.

"A vast improvement has been noticed in the quality of the New French Strain the last week or so. With the proper method of fertilization and cultivation, New French Strain can be raised to compare very favorably with the Golden Self-blanching. The stalks are of somewhat shorter length and the hearts much better formed. The growers seem to have much more success in growing this strain, if they apply more potash and less nitrate of soda and tankage.

"It is rather difficult for a novice to distinguish the difference between the New French Strain and the Golden Self-blanching, especially when the former is well-bleached and the tops trimmed, and it is my belief that many of the commission merchants do not know what strain of celery they are quoting. The best way to distinguish the difference is to note that the leaves of the New French Strain are finer and the ribs are more slender and narrower than those of the Golden Self-blanching."

In a letter of March 10 from Robert Bier, at Sanford, the following additional information is given:

"It may be of interest to your Market News men to know that we are shipping three general types of celery. These may be grouped as follows:

"First - the Specials, variously sold by seedsmen as Meisch Special, Dryer's Special, and Pearly White. This type is short-ribbed, very stocky in growth, large-leaved, with leaves deeply serrated, and tendency to be more or less pithy. It bleaches easily, in fact is almost white. Stalks 18 to 24 inches.

"Second - Golden Heart or Golden Self-blanching. Under this head are French and California grown seed. The stalks are longer-ribbed than the Specials, have good golden heart, thick stems and as a rule fair to good bleach. It has one criticism in that it shows more or less green hearts. Stalks 18 to 25 inches.

"Third - French Strain (or New French Strain), a selection from the old Golden Self-blanching. This variety is long-ribbed and stems in upper parts are very slender. Heart development very small and in smaller sizes (as 6-8-10) practically nil. Stalks 24 to 36 inches.

"No distinction is made by shippers between the Specials and Golden Heart types, although there is a distinct difference,"

3b. IDAHO LETTUCE SUMMARY WELL RECEIVED.

The elaborate summary of the Idaho lettuce season, recently issued by C. E. Schultz, at Idaho Falls, has attracted considerable attention and much favorable comment. Requests have been received for a large number of copies from growers, dealers and traffic officials in nearly all the western States and from other parts of the country. Much credit is given Mr. Schultz for compiling this report, which (by the way) was done as an extra job additional to his regular work of issuing potato market reports. Many newspapers have copied the summary or parts of it, and The Packer of March 3 published it almost in its entirety.

H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, helped to advertise this lettuce summary by inserting a notice of it at the foot of his own lettuce reports. The Idaho Falls office received many requests as a result of the advertising given the summary by Mr. Harris.

4b. LETTUCE SITUATION IN IMPERIAL VALLEY.

Writing on March 9 from El Centro, W. H. Hall remarks as follows:

"This week is believed to be the peak of the Imperial Valley lettuce season, after which shipments are expected to gradually reduce, with perhaps an occasional spurt for a day or two. Three-fourths or more of the season's movement will be accomplished by the last week of March, but many shipments will still be made in April. The Los Angeles section, it seems, will be the principal competing section after March. Several of the cash buyers contemplate leaving the Valley about the 25th."

5b. CONDITIONS IN MAINE POTATO DISTRICT.

Just before leaving Presque Isle, J. D. Snow wrote the following on March 10:-

"It commenced to snow hard this morning and it is hard at it this noon. The railroads are having all they can do to keep freight moving and are very slow in getting the empty cars back to shipping points. While Maine has been shipping a good number of cars during the past few weeks, the movement has been considerably lighter than it would be with cars plentiful. Probably the shortage is working to the interest of the growers and shippers by preventing a too rapid movement. Supplies of potatoes in Aroostook County are really getting down where buyers here have got to scratch around pretty thoroughly to locate stocks for sale, and many of the dealers say that they have never seen supplies so low at such an early date. They seem to think that the estimate of 20,000 cars for the season will be about right, which would leave approximately 3,500 cars to go.

"Prices to the grower have advanced and range \$1.40-\$1.75 per barrel for Green Mountains. Seed Cobblers are almost unobtainable, because supplies are so reduced. Boston is paying \$1.50-\$1.60 per cwt. for carloads of Mountains, delivered, and Philadelphia is paying \$1.80. There has been some selling of cars, all loaded, among local dealers at prices considerably above those just mentioned."



6b. POTATO SITUATION IN IDAHO.

On March 9, C. E. Schultz, of the Idaho Falls office, wrote as follows:

"The market here has reflected the better conditions in the terminal markets during the past two weeks. Dealers, however, are very cautious and pessimistic. Each day they predict that tomorrow the bottom will drop out. Many have been at a loss to account for the better condition of the markets under pressure of heavier shipments. The proportion of seed stock composing the movement would have been very interesting data during this period. I do not suppose it is practical and perhaps almost impossible to obtain such information from the railroads.

"The last two days of this week have witnessed a recurrence of car shortage in this section of the country. The shortage of equipment is tending to weaken the local market, as dealers are reluctant to load up with stock to gamble on any future developments. As long as they can sell stock they will bring up the wagonlot market proportionately, but when deliveries are impossible they stop or put the price down below present values. Rumors are prevalent among the railroad men here that as serious a car shortage as has ever been witnessed may be expected to develop between April 1 and 15. Such a condition would have a very material bearing on the proportion of the crop which will move out of Idaho during the balance of this season.

"A large shipper, who operates all over the State, estimates that about 7,000 cars of potatoes remain in Idaho. It is not expected that more than 3,500 to 4,500 of these will move, even under fairly favorable conditions. Feeding and close sorting continue to deplete stocks materially."

In this connection, Mr. Schultz issued an interesting table on his daily report of March 9. It shows daily shipments from leading stations in his territory this year and last, for the preceding three days; also total shipments to date for the three seasons. Another table gives the monthly shipments from these leading stations or shipping districts in Idaho this season and the previous two seasons, thus enabling the reader to make a guess at what the probable movement may be during the remainder of this season.

7b. USE PROPER TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS.

Recently the delivery of telegrams to people in the Washington office has been delayed because of the use of an incomplete or improper telegraphic address. The proper telegraphic address to use under all circumstances is:

SHERMAN

BUREAU AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

WASHINGTON D C

If the telegram is intended primarily for anyone other than Mr. Sherman, that person's name should be substituted for Mr. Sherman's. Never omit the phrase "Bureau Agricultural Economics" nor include the street address.

E. W. Stillwell,  
Specialist in Market News,  
(Fruits and Vegetables)



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK MARCH 5-10 INC. (REDUCED TO EASTERN TIME).

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number			
	Last Crop Stencil com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted & Delivered	
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>							
Philadelphia - Misc.	1:22	1:43	21	12	4,612	360	
New York - Misc. R	1:10	1:36	26	11	5,192	556	
Boston - Misc. M	1:59	2:29	30	12	3,077	300	
Washington - Misc.	12:46	2:34	108	10	3,150	--	
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>							
Chicago - Misc.	1:32	1:48	16	10	5,082	325	
Cincinnati - Misc. Q	1:36	1:53	17	10	4,305	650	
St. Louis - Misc. Q	12:54	1:16	22	15	3,675	125	
Kansas City - Misc. Q	12:18	12:41	23	10	4,695	111	
Minneapolis - Misc.	12:18	12:50	32	12	8,610	132	
Pittsburgh - Misc.	12:14	12:47	33	10	3,219	49	
Washington (Nat'l) BPHLQR #6 Peanuts Ship Infn.				100	40,961	1,940	
TOTAL	1:01#	1:34#	33#	212	86,578	4,548	
" previous week	1:15#	1:49#	34#	212	90,833	5,359	
<u>WESTERN OFFICE (Feb. 26-Mch. 3)</u>							
Los Angeles - Misc. IR#3	3:15	4:12	57	17	13,750	--	
" " previous week	3:25	4:22	57	15	11,270	--	
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				2,090	1,002,010	58,045	

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK MARCH 5-10 INC. (REDUCED TO CENTRAL TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
El Centro - L		1:04	2:56	3,316	483	3	--
Grand Rapids - R		11:50	1:27	7,902	1310	--	--
Greeley - R		12:57	1:30	6,642	1101	--	--
*Idaho Falls - R		2:02	2:38	2,520	840	--	--
*Presque Isle - R		2:28	3:17	4,383	1455	--	--
Rochester - BR		3:06	3:46	3,282	577	1	--
Sanford - H		1:22	2:38	3,367	530	--	--
*Spokane - B		1:00	3:50	2,763	826	--	--
Waupaca - R		12:11	2:12	6,652	1092	--	--
TOTAL		1:20#	2:42#	40,827			
" previous week		1:20#	2:51#	40,758			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				414,311			

#Average time. \* Reports 3 times a week.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 1,474,366.



March 15, 1923.

FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE1c. COLLECT FEES FOR ALL INSPECTIONS BEFORE JANUARY 15.

As two months have elapsed since the change in method of transmitting fees to the Washington office and all the form letters for collection should have been sent out, it is requested that all Inspectors cooperate in making an effort to clear up within the next two weeks all these old bills on inspections made before January 15. This will be to your advantage, <sup>not then</sup> as it will be necessary to make up two letters of transmittal each week if you happen to have one or more of these old bills paid. If you have failed to secure replies to the form letters of collection, try a personal visit to all parties owing inspection fees. This is often successful where no replies are received to correspondence. All of these bills which remain unpaid on April 1 should be forwarded to Washington for collection.

2c. ALL INSPECTORS NOTE CAREFULLY:

In reviewing certificates from both the Central and the Eastern districts things have been noticed which are not being handled correctly. In some cases this has been due to failure to follow instructions given in the Inspector's Handbook or the Division Letter. Instructions contained in the Division Letter should receive the same attention as those given to the individual Inspector in the form of a personal letter. The following points, and some that will be taken up in the next Division Letter, should be carefully read by all Inspectors to see if YOU are following directions:-

3c. INSPECTIONS ON PRODUCE FROM COLORADO.

Practically all cars shipped from Colorado have been inspected at shipping point and you should limit your inspection to condition only unless you have specific information to the effect that they were not inspected at shipping point. The Colorado inspection law requires that all products, for which grades have been established, be inspected at shipping point. All products for which grades have been established are found in the Colorado grade pamphlet. Therefore, do not report grade on Colorado products unless you are making a reinspection, in which case the matter should first be reported by wire to the office of the Supervising Inspector.

Cars from Colorado will not be marked with blue crayon, as it is to be understood that all Colorado shipments are inspected at shipping point and such marking is, therefore, unnecessary. Cars from all other States which are inspected at shipping point will be marked, -or at least they should be. If a particular car inspected by you bears no marks or car card indicating previous inspection or you hear from some source that it was inspected at shipping point, wire the Supervising Inspector, or other official of the State from which shipped, to make sure of the matter. Practically all the States where shipping-point service is carried on use car cards, briefly stating the grade, or other information to the effect that the car was inspected. In addition to car cards, all cars inspected at shipping point from all States (except Colorado) should also be found marked with blue crayon (occasionally white chalk marks may be found), since the card may be removed by the buyer, or other interested party, before the receiving-market inspector gets to the car. Report promptly to this office any cars where State inspectors have not followed the above practices.

4c. THINGS TO REMEMBER ABOUT REINSPECTIONS.

Directions governing reinspections are covered for the most part in I.H.B. 275-286. Briefly, if you feel that the applicant for reinspection is acting in good faith and is willing to comply with the regulations, -such as making advance payment of \$12 when you feel it is desirable or making the load accessible for complete inspection when necessary, - report the matter by wire to the Supervising Inspector and you will be promptly advised how to proceed. In markets where two Inspectors are located, they should make the reinspection jointly. In markets where there is only one Inspector, the advisability of sending another man to make joint reinspection will be considered. We desire to have two men make reinspections whenever possible, but owing to distance, expense and rush of work in other markets, this cannot always be arranged.

If reinspection sustains original grade, charge the applicant \$12.00, plus travel expense if made away from your official station. If reinspection reverses the original grade, make no fee charge, neither charge applicant for travel expense if made away from your official station. If an Inspector should be sent from Cleveland to make joint reinspection at Columbus, (where one Inspector is located), the Bureau would stand the expense of the Cleveland Inspector regardless of the results of the reinspection. Notify promptly the applicant for reinspection, also the Supervising Inspector, of the results of reinspection and issue reinspection certificate immediately. Reinspection will either sustain or reverse the original grade. See I.H.B. 285-286 for proper statement to make under "Remarks." A reinspection certificate should not be restricted on account of heavy loading or to accessible parts of the load; it is the duty of the applicant to make or cause the load to be made accessible for complete inspection. Some Inspectors have advised applicants it would be necessary to unload the car before reinspection could be made. Usually a wagon or truck backed up to the car door will provide removal of enough packages of heavily-loaded cars to make reinspection. Use your good judgment in such matters.

Cases have occurred where a car of box apples contained Extra Fancy in one end and Fancy Grade in the other end, and reinspection

was requested on the Fancy Grade only. If the regulations have been complied with, it is satisfactory to make reinspection only of the Fancy lot, making statement under "Remarks" to this effect. The reinspection fee, however, would apply the same as if the entire car had been reinspected.

F. G. Robb,  
Specialist in Inspection.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 12.

March 22, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. IMPORTANT ARTICLES IN WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS.

The last issue of Weather, Crops and Markets, dated March 17, is a 40-page issue and contains a large number of important articles relating to fruits and vegetables, as follows:

Page 217 - A summary of the week's markets and shipments.

226 - Filler concerning New Jersey potatoes.

230 - Weekly review with special paragraph on potatoes; tables of shipments and f.o.b. prices. Filler on holdings of lemons.

231 - Table showing arrivals and jobbing prices in city markets.  
Fresh Asparagus Season Is Now On, - a general article on asparagus.  
Record Prices for Early Asparagus in New York City.

232 - Northwestern Apple Season Closing, - by Mr. Callanan.  
Inspections Made during February.  
Shipping-Point Inspection Service on Watermelons.  
Grades Recommended for California Oranges.

233 - Cooperative Shipping-Point Inspection Meets Real Need, - a review of the first six months of this service in producing sections.  
Imports of Witloof or French Endive, - by Mr. Stanton.

234 - Two Jobbing Markets in Philadelphia, - by W. C. Lynn, of Harrisburg office; this story was written by Mr. Lynn when he was in Philadelphia.  
Saturday a Poor Market Day, - by Mr. Stanton.

235 - Table of Carload Shipments for February; Citrus for January.  
Advantages of Shipping-Point Inspection, - by Mr. Robb.

238 - Virginia Urges Grading of Fruits and Vegetables.

242 - List of New Publications Issued.

246 - Cabbage Production in Southern California Decreasing, - by Mr. Harris.

247 - Estimated Farm Value of Apples and Turnips on Feb. 15.  
Value of Uniform Grading of Farm Products, - by Mr. Hauck.  
Federal Celery Grades being Used at Sanford, Fla., - by Mr. Bier.

248 - Estimated Farm Value of Dry Beans on Feb. 15.  
Average Prices Received by Producers for Cabbage, Onions, Beans, Peanuts and Turnips.

249 - Estimated Farm Value of Potatoes and Sweet Potatoes on Mar. 1.  
Average Prices Received by Producers for Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes and Apples.

250 - Farm Price Comparisons with Pre-War Level on Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes, Apples, Dry Beans, Cabbage, Onions, Peanuts, Peaches and Pears.  
Prices of Articles Bought by Farmers in All Sections of the Country including 9 articles of food, 7 of clothing, 10 household articles, 9 of building material, 4 of fuel, 19 articles of machinery and equipment, 5 kinds of fertilizer, and 6 feeds.

252 - Sugar Cane Harvest in Hawaii.

Estimated Condition of Certain Crops in Florida and California.

253 - Annual Bean Crop in California, by Varieties, 1910-1922.

Australian Fruit Shippers Want Lower Freight Rates.

British Apple Market Prices for two weeks.

254 - Weather Conditions and special articles on weather.



2a. DAMAGE FROM RECENT COLD WEATHER.

The cold wave of Monday caused considerable damage in the South and Southwest. It is difficult to give reliable estimates at this early date, but the best information available indicates the following damage, which was reported over the leased wire this morning:

Late advices from Georgia, based on special reports of field investigations, indicate damage to peaches as an average of 35% for the State; in the north and northwest sections of the State 90%; in the northeast section 75%, west 40%, central 20%, and balance of the State 20%. Damage spotted. Varieties in full bloom worst injured. Hiley, Uneeda, Belle, Carman, Midway and Elberta crop least injured. Major damage occurred on night of March 19th, high winds and cloudiness preventing total destruction. Apples safe. Watermelons, cucumbers and cantaloupes 25% injury. Tomatoes destroyed in main section of South Georgia; plant beds injured. White potatoes nipped all over State; 12% damage in Savannah section. Late reports from Texas conflicting but indicate 50% loss to beans in Lower Valley. One-third truck crops around Corpus Christi to be replanted. Cucumbers total loss, also will be replanted. All potatoes in the Wharton-Eagle Lake district above ground frozen, but reports disagree as to the percentage of crop above ground, ranging from 10% to 50%. Watermelons killed except in extreme south. Strawberries in East Texas set back a month; most of present crop destroyed. Tomatoes in East Texas badly hurt, even those in cold frames. Too early for accurate fruit estimate but not more than half a crop expected in upper two-thirds of the State.

A preliminary report wired yesterday indicated the following additional damage:

Louisiana early potatoes frozen back. Tomatoes and early beans 50% killed. Cabbage and carrots not hurt. Strawberries in Hammond district damaged 25%. Damage to tomatoes in Crystal Springs section of Mississippi 10%; carrots 50; cabbage 25%; beets 40%; and peas 75%. Most tomatoes still protected in hot beds. Alabama strawberries blooms and fruit killed; plants unhurt; crop delayed. Cabbage not damaged. Peaches damaged 50%. Early planting of potatoes frozen back; beans, cucumbers and small truck killed, but will be replanted. Arkansas peaches damaged 50%; apples practically unhurt. Strawberries in White County Klondykes 15% loss; Aromas 5%. Northwestern Arkansas and Southwestern Missouri practically no damage. Florida no important crops damaged. South Carolina cabbage and potatoes uninjured. Beans slightly damaged. Asparagus shipments from Williston section stopped for a few days. North Carolina damage to peaches uncertain. Early advices indicate may be high as 80% for Elberta and Hale, less for Belles and other early varieties. About one-third total acreage potatoes in Orrick section of Missouri and Kaw Valley, Kansas, planted before freeze total loss; will be replanted. Practically no damage to strawberry crop in eastern Tennessee and Bowling Green Sections.

"DO IT RIGHT" IS A GOOD MOTTO TO LIVE BY.

IT SAVES WORRY AND TROUBLE IN THE END.



NEWS ITEMS.

Mr. Sherman's trip has been delayed until to-night. He expects to leave the city after he attends a meeting of the National Prison Association at the Raleigh Hotel, where he will address the group charged with the management of prison farms. After his arrival in New York, Mr. Sherman will also speak before the graduate class in marketing at Columbia University.

F. Earl Parsons visited the Washington office last Saturday and at the beginning of this week accompanied Mr. Samson to the conference at Martinsburg, W.Va. Mr. Parsons, as a member of the Virginia staff, is much interested in the working out of uniform apple grades for his State and West Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania. Having returned from this trip, Mr. Samson reports that the representatives of the horticultural societies in session at Martinsburg reached a unanimous agreement, after recommending slight modifications of the present grades.

Leaving New York on March 13, Herbert Graff went to Charlottesville, Va., to inspect about 5,600 barrels of Albemarle Pippins in storage at that point. This trip was made at the request of a New York firm interested financially in this stock. Since reaching Charlottesville, Mr. Graff has been asked by the storage company to inspect other blocks of apples in storage. He probably will not return to New York until the end of this week.

R. N. Balster, of the Chicago Inspection office, will be on leave April 1 to 14, after which he will report for duty at the Pittsburgh office, succeeding M. L. Henry who has gone to New York.

F. M. Patton, in charge of Transportation work, is on another trip this week, visiting railroad superintendents at Norfolk, Va.; Wilmington, N.C.; and Savannah, Ga.

As will be noticed on the list of field stations, the opening of Hammond office has been deferred until April 2 because of recent cold weather which has delayed the crop in that district. For the same reason, Hastings office will not be opened until about April 9. The Waupaca office will be operated until the middle of April; El Centro until the end of March, and Sanford until April 28. About 1,000 cars of celery are expected to be shipped during April and local operators have offered to pay about half the expenses of our field station at Sanford, provided Mr. Evers is permitted to continue issuing reports.

Ripley, Tenn., is another example of the desire for our field service even to the extent of financial aid by local shippers and dealers. That section has agreed to pay half the cost of a field station on strawberries, and we plan to open an office at Ripley during the berry season. That station will be a substitute for the one formerly operated at Humboldt, Tenn.

Since the withdrawal of F. W. Read from the California Dept. of Agriculture some weeks ago, L. J. Weishaar, of the Sacramento office, has been made Chief of the State Bureau of Standardization. It is now reported, however, that Mr. Weishaar expects to leave the service about May 1.

R. C. Butner, Supervising Inspector in Southern California, is spending Wednesday and Thursday at Nogales, Ariz., conferring with Mr. Wiley, who is inspecting Mexican tomatoes arriving through that gateway. On Friday and Saturday he expects to be at El Centro, in connection with the lettuce deal.



NEWS ITEMS. (Continued)

THE WICHITA OFFICE of the Inspection Service will be temporarily closed, effective April 1. J. H. Hoover, in charge, will return to Chicago on that date.

J. S. Bohannon, of the Solicitor's Office, will be at Norfolk, Va., Friday, conferring with the District Attorney relative to an excess profits case which may be tried in that city.

Having recovered from his recent illness, E. R. Biddle resumed work in the Philadelphia office of the News Service last Saturday, W.E. Harrison returned to his headquarters at Baltimore, and Edwin Crosthwait returned to the Washington office.

W. F. Allewelt, Director of the Colorado Division of Marketing, is in Washington at present conferring about inspection, standardization and market news work in Colorado.

C. T. More, formerly in charge of the Grades and Standards work in this Division but connected with the St. Louis Division of the American Fruit Growers for the past 2½ years, has not entered business for himself in St. Louis according to an item in The Packer. He will be engaged as a broker of fruits and vegetables in that territory.

B. S. Jones, of the St. Louis office, was granted permission to give a talk on March 20 before the Parent and Teachers' Association of the St. Louis public schools in University City, adjoining St. Louis. The usual audience at these meetings is 300-500 persons. Mr. Jones planned to discuss the work of the Fruit and Vegetable Division, especially the Inspection Service.

O. D. Miller has completed the truck-crop financing studies in Florida and is now on his way north. After Hastings, he visited Jacksonville, Fla., and will stop at several points in Georgia, to investigate peanuts. His schedule is as follows: Valdosta March 22; Albany, 23 and 24; Richland, 26; Atlanta, 27 and 28. He may stop at one or two points in Virginia and expects to reach Washington by April 4.

Because of the delay in the opening of the field station at Hammond, La., it has been decided to let G. E. Prince do some investigational work in the vicinity of Mobile, Ala., during the next 10 days. He will make a study of the financing of truck crops in that territory, having Mobile as his headquarters until the opening of the Hammond office about April 2.



March 22, 1923.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTS

Market News Service on Fruit and Vegetables.

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage*	Sept. 11 Sept. 13 Sept. 23 Oct. 2	Oct. 11* Mar. 31 Mar. 31 Jan. 27*
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	C. E. Schultz	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS. Chamber of Commerce	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 14
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 221 Ashton Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples*	Oct. 17 Oct. 17	May 1 Nov. 11*
GREELEY, COLO. 214 Post Office Bldg.	885	Mrs. D. G. Dick	Potatoes	Dec. 4	Apr. 15
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	W. H. Hall	Lettuce	Jan. 9	Mar. 31
SANFORD, FLA. Chamber of Commerce	910	J. D. Evers	Celery	Jan. 22	Apr. 26

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

HAMMOND, LA.	802	G. E. Prince	Berries	Apr. 2	May 15
LAREDO, TEXAS	801	V. D. Callanan	Onions	Apr. 5	May 12
HASTINGS, FLA.	851	Unassigned	Potatoes	Apr. 9	May 10

\* Report discontinued

J. D. Snow temporarily in Boston office.  
V. D. Callanan on leave at Malden, Mass.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. CHANGE SPELLING OF "WINNINGSTADT" CABBAGE <sup>TO</sup> "WINNIGSTADT."

In order to bring our spelling of the word into uniformity with the practice of other Bureaus in the Department, on the Cabbage (KO) page of the code, change "AJ Wimmingstadt" to read "AJ Winnigstadt." This is effective at once.

2b. USE "QUALITY AND CONDITION" CODE PHRASES MORE FREQUENTLY.

A number of market stations seldom use in their market reports descriptive phrases from the "Quality and Condition" (JA-JE) page of the code, or from the "Pack" group of symbols on the following (JI-JU) page. This may be because the reporter often does not personally see the produce and hesitates to use descriptive terms on the strength of the word of the salesman. More often, perhaps, he does not inquire as to the quality and condition, and assumes that all the products are "stock of good merchantable quality and condition."

In the last analysis, the details of market reporting must be left very largely to the individual reporters; here in Washington we cannot presume to know local conditions closely enough to do more than make suggestion. But it seems as if more frequent use of descriptive terms would be useful in many instances. For example, one day last week a market report included a quotation on Virginia spinach at mostly \$2.75, few \$3.00 per bbl. The market was reported as steady. The day following, with the market still steady and no qualifying term to indicate that the stock was not equal to that of the day before, the price had dropped to \$1.50-1.75, few \$2.00. The market term was serviced, and brought a verification and the explanation "stock not as good as yesterday."

Services of this class form a considerable portion of the total, and could be largely eliminated if the reporter when preparing his wires would remember that the viscers in Washington can only sense local conditions from the reports. Whenever a day's price for a commodity as given by a dealer does not agree with that of the day before, inquire whether the difference is due to a change in market conditions or to a difference in the quality and condition of the stock. If the latter, use appropriate code phrases when preparing your wire to Washington.

Do not understand from this that we are requesting the wholesale use of descriptive phrases, but only that sufficient care be used to make the report more clear. Normally, such expressions as "quality and condition 'good' or 'generally good'" are covered by the heading "Unless otherwise stated, all quotations are on stock of good merchantable quality and condition." When used to describe produce that is contrasted with excellent or inferior stock, however, they should be included in the report. For example, in quoting spinach in barrels:- "quality and condition good \$3.00, poor quality, some slimy, 75¢-\$1.50."

The following definitions of quality and condition, from paragraphs 30 and 31 of the Food Products Inspector's Handbook, are given for your information:

"Quality deals primarily with the general characteristics of the product and is not ordinarily associated with soundness. Color, size, shape, and other items affecting the appearance of the product which make it <sup>more or</sup> less attractive to the buyer, are the factors which determine quality."

"Condition deals more with such factors as state of maturity, presence or absence of decay, freezing injury, moisture, withering or any other deteriorating factor."



March 22, 1923.

3b. PROPER WAY TO DECODE "GOBUN."

The instructions in Par. 2b. of the March 1 Division Letter, regarding the proper way to code and decode "GOBUN," do not seem to have been clearly understood. Inspection of the mimeographed reports shows that every day six or more stations fail to decode the phrase in full. All code books should now contain the following:

GOBUN Carloads delivered sales, (freight only deducted), \_\_\_\_\_ rate. (Footnote on "GOB" page): When decoding, insert in blank space name of town on which rate is based. When coding report, unless the town is the same as that at the head of the f.o.b. report, precede "GOBUN" by proper town name, as "CADILLAC GOBUN."

In other words, "GOBUN" in the Waupaca report is to be decoded: "Carloads delivered sales, (freight only deducted), Waupaca rate." Waupaca is inserted by the decoder because the wire indicates that the town on which the rate is based is that at the head of the report, - i.e., Waupaca. The Maine potato report secured by Boston and sent over the wire daily is headed "Aroostock County Points," and thus a town has to be inserted in the wire before it is sent. The basis is then coded: "Presque Isle GOBUN." In the wire from Grand Rapids the transactions are on the basis of Cadillac rate. Thus it is necessary to phrase the basis of sale "Cadillac GOBUN," which is decoded "Carloads delivered sales, (freight only deducted), Cadillac rate," as otherwise the wire would be decoded "Grand Rapids rate."

This expression may seem long, but none of it should be omitted when decoding wires for your local reports, as otherwise the basis will not be correctly stated.

4b. CAR SHORTAGE IN MINNESOTA.

There has been some difference of opinion as to the exact effect of car shortages on the movement of potatoes (for example). In a recent letter from the Minneapolis office, R. M. Peterson explained the situation in that State:-

"At this time of the year, dealers try not to load cars which are not already sold. With the sort of a market we have had during the past season, it is almost suicide to roll potatoes, hoping to pick up a buyer before it becomes necessary to pay demurrage upon the car. Although I have not said much about the situation in my daily reports, the car shortage has been more or less general to a certain extent throughout the whole season. During the cold weather practically nothing moved out of the State. As a result, many of the dealers have gradually accumulated orders far in excess of the cars which they have been able to load. With this situation in mind, it is easy to see why dealers are not accepting orders on account of car shortage."

E. W. Stillwell,  
Specialist in Market News,  
(Fruits and Vegetables)



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK MARCH 12-17 INC. (REDUCED TO EASTERN TIME.)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted & Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Philadelphia - Misc.	1:13	1:34	21	12	4923	355
New York - Misc. R	12:54	1:18	24	11	5104	556
Boston - Misc. R	1:17	2:33	76	16	7175	300
Washington - Misc.	12:42	2:22	100	10	5140	--
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Chicago - Misc.	1:18	1:29	11	10	5075	325
St. Louis - Misc. Q	1:04	1:25	21	15	3675	400
Pittsburgh - Misc.	1:05	1:33	28	10	3256	49
Cincinnati - Misc. Q	1:48	2:18	30	10	4315	650
Minneapolis - Misc.	12:57	1:11	34	11	8721	74
Kansas City - Misc. Q	12:58	1:25	47	10	4725	--
Washington (Nat'l) BFHLMQR #6 P'nut Honey Snip. Infm.				97	44497	1942
TOTAL	1:04#	1:45#	39#	212	94606	4651
" previous week	1:01#	1:34#	33#	212	85578	4548
<u>WESTERN OFFICE (March 5-10)</u>						
Los Angeles - Misc. LR#3	3:16	4:08	52	17	13772	--
" " previous week	3:15	4:12	57	17	13750	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				2519	1,110,588	62696

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK MARCH 12-17 INC. (REDUCED TO CENTRAL TIME.)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
El Centro - L	12:57	2:24	3419	500	4	--
Grand Rapids - R	12:21	1:52	5266	1310	--	--
Greely - R	12:52	1:27	6643	1101	--	--
*Idaho Falls - R	2:32	3:03	2520	840	--	--
Rochester - BR	2:39	3:22	5513	522	--	10
Sanford - H	1:30	2:42	3559	532	--	--
Waupaca - R	12:04	2:05	6576	1096	--	--
TOTAL	1:16*	2:25*	31096			
" previous week	1:20*	2:42*	40827			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			445,407			

# Average time. \* Reports 3 times a week.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 1,618,491.



FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE1c. INTERNAL BREAKDOWN OF APPLES.

The proper term for breakdown of apples resulting from over-maturity or watercore is "Internal Breakdown" and not "Physiological Breakdown". There are many physiological diseases and it has been decided to apply the term "Internal Breakdown" to this one. This condition should be reported under "MATURITY - COLOR" not under "OTHER BLEMISHES AND DEFECTS," because it is a defect of maturity. Save the space under "OTHER BLEMISHES AND DEFECTS" for those blemishes that cannot be properly described under other headings.

2c. BE CAREFUL OF USE OF THE TERM "RECONDITIONING."

The statement "reconditioning necessary to accurately determine the loss" should not be used in connection with products like strawberries, which it is not practicable to recondition. It should be used only with such commodities as cabbage, lettuce, etc., that are frequently reconditioned. When it is used, it should not be applied to the entire carlot unless it will be necessary to recondition the entire lot. When only a small portion of the lot shows decay or blemishes, it is incorrect to state "reconditioning of the entire lot necessary."

3c. DO NOT OVERWORK THE PHRASE "ASIDE FROM."

On box apples, if you have 10% decay, 8% Bitter Pit, 15% scald, 5% stings, don't word your grade statement: "aside from defects (or blemishes) noted above, stock meets requirements of grade as marked." A grade statement similar to the following would be appropriate: "Stock showing decay, scald and Bitter Pit as noted above, but in all other respects meets requirements of Washington State Extra Fancy Grade" or "Stock in poor condition account decay, scald and Bitter Pit noted above, but in all other respects meets requirements of Washington State Extra Fancy Grade." This suggestion would also apply to potatoes and other products for which grades have been established.

4c. KEEP A SUPPLY OF THERMOMETERS IN GOOD CONDITION.

Keep two thermometers on hand and, when one is lost or broken, place your order for another immediately. Some difficulty has been experienced recently with the mercury column separating, and in some cases it has been impossible to get it united. The most effective method for uniting the mercury, when shaking will not do it, is to place the tube in very hot water, but care will have to be exercised when this is done to remove it from the water before the mercury reaches the top; otherwise the expansion will break the tube. If you are not able to get the mercury united, return the thermometer to the Supervisor's office and another will be forwarded you. Fillers for both armored and unarmored types can be secured from both Chicago and New York.

INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED IN THE DIVISION LETTER  
ARE JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THOSE GIVEN IN A LETTER OR  
SPECIAL MEMORANDUM.



5c. MAKE A CAREFUL INSPECTION AND A CORRECT CERTIFICATE.

A thorough and careful inspection, including correct interpretation of grade if the product inspected is one for which grade has been established is first in importance, and the proper preparation of the certificate a close second. Errors, typographical or otherwise, should be corrected before the certificate is signed and mailed. It will be very embarrassing if you are asked in court to acknowledge a certificate that is incorrect, no matter what the cause.

6c. SOME DIRECTIONS THAT ARE NOT BEING FOLLOWED.

Some Inspectors are not following the instructions given in the Division Letter for Feb. 15, about restricting certificates to "accessible portion of load consisting of ---."

Do not fail to have all copies of reinspection certificates or corrected certificates marked "REINSPECTION" or "CORRECTED CERTIFICATE" near the top of the sheet. Some offices have failed to do this.

If a second inspection or a reinspection shows that a material error was made in the first report, no fee is charged and the fee space should be marked: "No fee."

7c. PROPER METHOD OF SHOWING FEES.

Omit the amount of fee on shipper's copy (unless the shipper be the applicant) but always show the fee on the copies that go to Washington and to the Supervisor's office. In addition to the amount under "Fees" state the same amount under "Total," if no expenses were incurred; otherwise Audits and Accounts may not understand that no expenses were incurred but may think that you unintentionally omitted the expense amount.

8c. IMPORTANT FACTS REGARDING DECAY.

Decay, either wet or dry type, is included in the tolerances of the Sweet Potato grades and Northern-Grown Onion grades. I.H.B. 245, example 5, reads as follows: "One type of decay or condition not necessarily apparent at grading time, but not present in sufficient quantity to exceed the grade tolerance: Sweet Potatoes- (5% Soft Rot-with no undersize or blemishes). Stock meets requirements of U.S. Grade No. 1. Note: It would be very unusual to find 5% decay in a car of Sweet Potatoes in which there are no blemishes. Even though the blemishes amounted to only 2 or 3%, with 5% decay the stock should be reported up to grade aside from decay."

If however both decay and blemishes, or either, in absence of the other, are 5% or less, the stock is up to grade. Not all certificates have been issued in accordance with these directions.

9c. WATCH THE SIZE OF ONIONS.

If more than 25% by weight of a lot of onions is between 1-1/4 and 1-3/4 inches in diameter, certify the stock as meeting requirements of U.S. Grade No. 1 Medium, if the stock is otherwise of U.S. Grade No. 1 quality. In a shipment of onions, for example, showing 2/3 to 3/4 of the stock ranging in size from 1-1/4 to 1-3/4 inches, it is not proper to omit the word "Medium." If the lot was sold on the basis of No. 1 and contains more than 25% between 1-1/4 and 1-3/4 inches, manifestly U. S. No. 1 Medium onions have been delivered and grade statement should state this fact. It is true that the stock meets the quality requirements of U.S. No. 1 in this instance but falls within the Medium size classification. I.H.B. 653 covers this subject fully.



March 22, 1923.

10c. TOO FREQUENT USE OF WORD "MOSTLY."

You are not justified in reporting a "mostly" condition upon examination of a small number of packages. Division Letter No. 46, Nov. 23, 1922, in paragraph 4c (6), reads as follows:

Remember that you are never justified in using the term "mostly" by examining your percentages on seven or eight packages. Additional packages must be examined before you can tell what most of the car is like. I believe that this term is being overused or rather carelessly used by many Inspectors. When a set of percentages and additional observations do not show very clearly that the most of a car falls within a certain class, average the figures found and, after giving the range, state "averaging between 10 and 15%," or whatever the figures may show. (See Handbook Paragraph 503.) I believe that far more of our certificates should be written in accordance with directions of this paragraph than is the case at present. This is particularly true in doorway inspections, where your observations are limited to a half-dozen packages.

11c. EXPLANATION OF PARAGRAPH 1c, D. L. No. 10, MARCH 8, 1923.

Some offices have placed the wrong interpretation on the second and third paragraphs of D.L. 10, 1c. This means that a car containing five vegetables should be listed on the second sheet of the monthly report as one of mixed vegetables. The "1" should not be placed in either the carlot or l.c.l. column but immediately after the words "Mixed Vegetables." Each vegetable should be listed in the l.c.l. or carlot column, depending on the amount. In this way the report will not only show the total number of inspections but will also show the number of mixed cars that were inspected.

THE HANDBOOK IS A MIGHTY GOOD FRIEND  
IN TIME OF NEED - IF USED.  
YOU NEED IT ALL THE TIME.

12c. ADDRESSED ENVELOPES FOR MAILING CERTIFICATES AND FEE BILLS.

A supply of addressed envelopes for use in mailing certificates and fee bills to the office of Audits and Accounts is being sent to each Inspection office. Requisitions may be sent in for additional envelopes when these have been used.

F. G. Robb,  
Specialist in Inspection.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D.C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL.-4, NO. 13.

March 29, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

NEWS ITEMS.

Mr. Robb and Mr. Samsen are planning to leave about the middle of next week on a southern trip. They probably will make stops at Richmond, Va.; Raleigh, N. C.; Charleston, S.C.; Atlanta, Ga.; Jacksonville, Fla. and other points in Florida, visiting State officials, growers, shippers and dealers in order to arrange for shipping-point inspection in the South.

This week C. W. Hauck is accompanying the County Agent at West Palm Beach on a trip through the Okeechobee section of Florida, where a number of new districts are undertaking the growing of vegetables. He will confer with Robert Bier at Lakeland about April 1 and later will make a trip to Ft. Myers and Bradentown to secure further information on peppers.

Robert Bier will have completed his cooperative work with the American Fruit Growers at Sanford, Fla., by Saturday and will then proceed to Washington. On his return trip he expects to interview State officials and others regarding tentative plans for grading demonstrations and shipping-point inspection. He probably will be in Washington by April 15.

Because of the earlier movement of strawberries from the Hammond section of Louisiana, it was not possible to carry out the arrangement whereby G. E. Prince would have done investigational work at Mobile, Ala., this week. Regular market reports on strawberries were started at Hammond and in the Washington office on March 28. Mr. Prince has P.O. Box 924 at Hammond.

We regret to announce the resignation of M. L. Fenn from the New York inspection staff. He will leave on March 31 and expects to become manager of a larger farm near Jersey Shore, Pa., just west of Williamsport. Mr. Fenn has been connected with the Inspection Service since November, 1919, most of which time he was an Inspector in Pittsburgh. He has rendered excellent service during these 3-1/3 years.

W. L. Evans and H. V. DeMott returned from Chicago last Saturday, after having audited accounts of wool dealers in that city who made excess profits on the 1918 clip. They report that only a comparatively small allowance had to be made because of the re-audit and that the Government will recover almost the entire sum claimed as excess profits.

J. K. Boyd, in charge of market reports in Pittsburgh, was taken sick a few days ago. J. J. Gardner handled the reporting work for a few days, but arrangements were made with the Pennsylvania Bureau of Markets for C. C. Lynn to handle the reports beginning Tuesday and continuing until Mr. Boyd returns.

THE LINCOLN, NEBR., OFFICE will not have leased wire service after March 31, because of the expiration of the cooperative agreement with that State. Lincoln should be cancelled from all maps of the leased wire.

Miss Lucy Watt, has gone on 10 days' leave at her home in Greensburg, Pa.

On Wednesday of this week, B. E. Yaden, of Chicago, visited the Milwaukee office of the Inspection Service.



NEWS ITEMS. (Continued)

About the middle of April, it is expected that arrangements will be completed whereby Walter Kingsbury, of the Boston Market News office, will be given an assignment as Navy Inspector at San Diego, Calif., succeeding A. S. Mason at that point. Mr. Kingsbury has given highly satisfactory service as market reporter in Boston during the past three years and, as an Inspector, has assisted regularly with the inspection work. He was originally appointed from California in October, 1917, and will take his annual leave in that State before assuming his new duties at San Diego.

After the closing of the temporary field station at Rochester this week and upon completion of the summaries of that deal, C. L. Brown will be sent to Boston to handle the Market News work during the spring and summer. He probably will reach Boston on April 9.

A. S. Mason, who has been Navy Inspector at San Diego almost from the beginning of the operation of that station, will proceed to San Pedro about May 1 to relieve Navy Inspector Wright, while the latter goes on annual leave. Mr. Mason will then go to Chicago, where he will take further training in inspection work.

Upon the closing of the field station at El Centro, Calif., this Saturday, W. H. Hall will proceed to Los Angeles, where he will spend a few days before returning to his headquarters in Chicago.

The Idaho Falls station of the News Service, which was to have closed on March 31, will be continued at least until April 14, as the local Chamber of Commerce has assured sufficient funds to pay about half the expenses to that date. Potato prices have advanced so sharply in the Idaho Falls section that there is much interest in the deal at present.

V. D. Callanan, who has been on leave in Massachusetts, will reach Washington this Saturday on his way to Texas, where he will operate the Laredo field station.

Mrs. Anna Day Wood, clerk-typist in the Boston office, has been obliged to be absent for some time on account of sickness.

Two of the State inspectors from Michigan visited the Chicago office recently and are spending some time in that city, familiarizing themselves with the receiving-market inspection work.

Having completed the inspection of about 55 carloads of apples which were in controversy between a local storage company and a New York firm, Herbert Graff stopped at the Washington office last Saturday on his return trip from Charlottesville, Va., en route to New York City.

Instead of going to Pittsburgh after his period of leave which ends on April 15, R. N. Balster will go to Philadelphia to assist with the inspection work in that city. His name should be cancelled under Chicago on the list of Inspectors and inserted under Philadelphia.

When the Fort Worth office of the Inspection Service closes for the summer, which will be early in April, it is planned to let M. C. Gregory go to Pittsburgh, to help with the work in that market.

E. E. Conklin, Jr. is at Avoca, N. Y., this week, cooperating with the State potato inspectors in that territory. This will be the final week of the shipping-point inspection of New York potatoes in and around Avoca. Mr. Conklin is expected in Washington early in April, after five months' absence on field duty.

Mr. Patton has gone to Norfolk, Va., and to Philadelphia and New York to improve arrangements for the telegraphic reports of shipments.



March 29, 1923.

NEWS ITEMS (Continued)

The April number of the American Review of Reviews contains an excellent article on "Some Economic Aspects of the Potato Crop," by Carl R. Woodward. It is splendidly illustrated with half-tone cuts of photographs taken in the leading potato sections and with a chart showing production and prices over a series of years. As editor at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, it is not surprising that Mr. Woodward has stressed the marketing of potatoes in that State but he has covered in a general way the entire potato situation.

One letter makes quite a difference. In the item concerning C. T. More in last week's Division Letter, the word "~~not~~" should have been "now," thus making the item read properly: "has now entered business for himself in St. Louis." Just a slip in reading the stencil.

A brief outline of the results of Aimer D. Miller's extensive study of American fruit and vegetable auctions is being published in Weather, Crops and Markets. The first article appeared in the issue of March 24. A second article will be published in the near future.

Other articles in the last (March 24) issue of Weather, Crops and Markets are: The weekly review and tables, the review containing a special paragraph on onions. Short items on Maine potatoes, Florida cabbage and celery, and Imperial Valley lettuce. A report of the British apple market and the monthly report of apples held in cold storage on March 1. Report of sweet potatoes in storage on March 1, and stocks of white potatoes on hand on that date; these last articles are on pages 276 and 277.

On Monday, an important mimeographed release on truck crops, dated March 15 and 22, was distributed. It contains the latest information on 11 truck crops in Florida, with a table showing the State acreage the past two years and the planted acreage this year, together with the yield per acre, and the production. Another table gives the acreage for the past 4 years and a forecast of acreage for this season on early potatoes in 11 southern States; potatoes in 9 intermediate States; tomatoes in 6 southern States; cantaloupes in Imperial Valley, Texas and Florida, and strawberries in 11 intermediate States. Potato acreage seems to be about 23% less than last year. Tomato acreage is increased except in Tennessee and Texas. Cantaloupe acreage probably will be less in Imperial Valley but greater in Florida and Texas. Strawberries probably will show a decrease in Arkansas but a gain in Missouri and Tennessee.

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1a. CALIFORNIA GRAPE ACREAGE.

Under date of March 15, E. E. Kaufman, Agricultural Statistician with headquarters at Sacramento, issued a three-page mimeographed report on the acreage of grapes in California. The varieties are classed in three general groups: Wine, Table and Raisin grapes. One sheet of the report gives the acreage planted in 1921 and in 1922. Another sheet shows the non-bearing and the bearing acreage in 1922. The figures are given for 8 districts. District No. 1 includes two counties in the northwestern part of the State. No. 2 includes three counties just east of District No. 1. No. 3 is Lassen County. No. 4 includes 12 counties near the coast, to the north and south of San Francisco. No. 5 is the Sacramento district, covering 9 counties. No. 5a is the Fresno district, including 8 counties. No. 6 covers 8 counties on the eastern border just at the bend in the State line. No. 8 is southern California, including 8 counties. For the entire State the totals are as follows, all figures representing acres:

	<u>Wine</u>	<u>Table</u>	<u>Raisin</u>	<u>Total</u>
Planted in 1921.....	10,542	25,515	54,910	90,965
Planted in 1922.....	15,113	24,669	32,520	72,302
Non-bearing in 1922.	25,655	50,182	87,430	163,267
Bearing in 1922.....	121,218	83,418	244,195	448,831

Of the plantings in 1921, for wine grapes the districts ranked in this order: No. 5a, No. 1, No. 4 and No. 8; for table grapes they ranked No. 5a, No. 8 and No. 5; for raisin grapes they ranked No. 5a, No. 8 and No. 5. Of the 1922 plantings, for wine grapes the districts ranked No. 5a, No. 8, No. 4 and No. 1; for table grapes the order was No. 5a, No. 8 and No. 5, and the same for raisin grapes. The prominence of the Fresno district (No. 5a) and of the southern district (No. 8) will be noticed in all these figures. With respect to the bearing acreage in 1922, however, the leading districts for wine grapes were 4, 5a and 8; for table grapes 5a, 5 and 8; and for raisin grapes 5a, 5 and 8.

2a. PRE-COOLED LETTUCE FROM THE IMPERIAL VALLEY.

The first car of pre-cooled lettuce ever shipped from Imperial Valley, California, rolled from El Centro on March 14, according to a letter received from W. H. Hall, in charge of the temporary field station at that town. The shipment was destined to Chicago, and a representative of the local ice company which is conducting these experiments accompanied the shipment to secure first-hand information of its condition on arrival. It was planned to apportion the carload among a number of commission merchants in Chicago.

The lettuce is precooled by keeping it in ice water for two hours or until it has reached the same temperature as the water, 34 degrees. It is then packed in the usual manner in crates with crushed ice between the layers and loaded under standard refrigeration. Those conducting the experiments believe that the lettuce will carry as far as New York and Boston without reicing and that it will hold up much better after being unloaded at the market. It is planned to ship other cars, pre-cooled in the same manner but without bunker or crate ice, using only 20 blocks (approximately 4,000 pounds) of either shaved or broken ice on top of the crates in the car.

If these experiments prove successful, the company conducting them may build plants of sufficient capacity to handle all lettuce and cantaloupes.



TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTS

Market News Service on Fruits and Vegetables.

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	C. E. Schultz	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Apr. 14
WAUPACA, WIS. Chamber of Commerce	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 14
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 221 Ashton Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes, Apples*	Oct. 17 Oct. 17	May 1 Nov. 11*
GREELEY, COLO. 214 Post Office Bldg.	885	Mrs. D. G. Dick	Potatoes	Dec. 4	Apr. 15
SANFORD, FLA. Chamber of Commerce	910	J. D. Evers	Celery	Jan. 22	Apr. 28
HAMMOND, LA.	802	G. E. Prince	Berries	Mar. 28	May 10

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

LAREDO, TEXAS	801	V. D. Callanan	Onions	Apr. 5	May 12
HASTINGS, FLA.	851	Unassigned	Potatoes	Apr. 15	May 10

The following stations close on date indicated:

ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Peaches Apples Potatoes Cabbage	Sept. 11 Sept. 13 Sept. 23 Oct. 2	Closed Oct. 11 Mar. 31 Mar. 31 Jan. 27
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	W. H. Hall	Lettuce	Jan. 9	Mar. 31

\* Report discontinued.

J. D. Snow temporarily in Boston office.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. ANOTHER USE OF SHIPMENT DATA.

The Annual Bulletin for 1922 of the Car Service Division of the American Railway Association contains a large number of statistical tables and charts showing shipments of various commodities. One table shows the monthly movement of 22 fruits and vegetables during the past three years. An accompanying chart shows the same information by bars of proper lengths. The data were furnished by Mr. Patton's section. This Bulletin also contains many charts covering freight loadings, car shortage and surplus, equipment awaiting repairs, new equipment ordered, etc.

2b. NEBRASKA POTATO SUMMARY ISSUED.

Summary of the White Potato Deals, South Central and Western Nebraska, Season of 1922, was issued last week. This 12-page summary by O. D. Miller covers very thoroughly the two leading potato sections of Nebraska, and is based largely on the market reports issued at the temporary field stations at Kearney and Alliance.

3b. VISITORS TO NEW YORK OFFICE.

Although all branch offices in large cities doubtless receive calls from representatives of many foreign countries, our New York office probably holds the record in this respect, as indicated in the following letter from Mr. Stanton:-

"In looking over the cards of some of the visitors to this office during the last year or so, I was somewhat surprised to note the wide territory covered by these various representatives. While it might be expected that the New York office, on account of its location, would be visited by more foreign officials than any other, I thought you might be interested in the partial list below:

Commissioner for the Commonwealth of Australia.

Representative of a food concern in Australia and New Zealand.

Official of Czechoslovakia.

Representative of Estonian Government.

Representative and Professor from Moscow, Russia.

Representative of a food concern in Buenos Aires.

Railroad official from Buenos Aires.

Official of Imperial Bureau of Fisheries, Tokyo, Japan.

Agricultural students from Japan.

Representative from Chile.

Canadian Trade Commissioner.

"While it was not always possible to supply the desired information to these gentlemen, in practically all instances it was given or they were referred to proper sources.

"Letters of inquiry were received also from India, Germany, France, Dutch Guiana and various South American countries."

E. W. Stillwell,  
Specialist in Market News,  
(Fruits and Vegetables)



March 29, 1923.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK MARCH 19 - 24, INC. (REDUCTED TO EAST TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered
<b>EASTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Philadelphia-Misc.	1:06	1:26	20	12	4,925	380
New York- Misc. R	12:44	1:21	37	11	5,079	515
Boston- Misc. R	1:45	3:01	76	16	7,175	300
Washington- Misc.	12:28	1:48	80	10	3,185	--
<b>WESTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Chicago - Misc.	1:15	1:25	10	10	5,075	325
Kansas City- Misc. Q	1:20	1:31	11	10	4,725	120
St. Louis - Misc. Q	12:07	12:25	18	12	3,675	275
Minneapolis- Misc.	12:33	12:58	25	12	8,707	132
Pittsburgh- Misc.	12:08	12:37	29	10	3,260	49
Cincinnati- Misc. Q	1:56	2:28	32	10	4,340	650
Washington (Nat'l) BFELMQR#6 P'nuts, Ship. Infr.				100	40,947	1,943
TOTAL	12:56#	1:30#	34#	213	91,033	4,689
" previous week	1:04#	1:43#	39#	212	94,606	4,651
<b>WESTERN OFFICE (Mar. 12-17)</b>						
Los Angeles-Misc. LR#3	3:13	4:07	54	17	13,762	--
" " previous week	3:15	4:12	57	17	13,772	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				2,549	1,215,243	67,385

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK MARCH 19 - 24, INC. (REDUCED TO CENTRAL TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
El Centro - L	12:01	1:45	3,428	502	--	--
Grand Rapids - R	12:22	1:53	7,890	1,310	--	--
Greeley - R	11:48	12:45	6,642	1,101	--	--
*Idaho Falls- R	1:55	2:27	2,520	526	--	37
Rochester- BR	2:54	3:28	3,333	526	1	--
Sanford- H	1:15	2:28	3,381	533	--	--
Waupaca- R	12:17	2:21	6,605	1,100	--	--
TOTAL	12:53#	2:10#	33,799			
" previous week	1:16#	2:25#	31,096			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			479,206			

\* Reports 3 times a week. # Average time.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 1,761,834.

FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE1c. UNPAID BILLS AGAINST PRICE-SMITH FRUIT COMPANY.

We have been notified that the Price-Smith Fruit Company of St. Joseph, Missouri, is insolvent. If you have any unpaid bills against this Company, please forward them at once so that they may be properly presented to the trustee who has been appointed to handle the Company's affairs.

2c. ALL UNISSUED CERTIFICATES TO BE MARKED "CANCELLED."

All originals of certificates which, for any reason, are not issued should be marked "CANCELLED" in large letters and be forwarded to Audits and Accounts where they will be so recorded. This will apply to certificates which are spoiled in typing; those typed but not issued; and to any other certificates which do not finally go out in the regular way. If the certificates were typed but not issued, it would be of interest to the Supervising Inspectors to have copies of the cancelled certificates forwarded to them; the originals, however, should always go to Audits and Accounts, where proper credit will be given. If copies of cancelled certificates are sent to the Supervising Inspector, they should be marked "Cancelled" as well as the originals.

3c. ARTICLE ON SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION.

All Inspectors should read the article on shipping-point inspection work, published on page 233 of Weather, Crops and Markets for March 17.

4c. SEND IN SIXTY-POUND BALANCES FOR NEW HANDLES.

All inspection offices having sixty-pound balances that have not been equipped with brass handles should send them to the Washington office, in order that these handles can be put on before the season for watermelons and other crops requiring considerable use of the scales begins.

5c. IS THE INSPECTOR'S HANDBOOK PERFECT?

Only one Inspector has offered any suggestions for changes in obsolete or contradictory portions of the Inspector's Handbook as requested in Par. 3c, Division Letter of February 23. Does the Handbook suit everyone else without any change?

6c. HOW MANY INSPECTORS PREFER THREE-FOLD NOTE BOOKS?

The supply of blank forms for the three-fold note books has been exhausted and we desire to know whether it is advisable to have more printed. Each office will please report the number of Inspectors who prefer this form to the ring binder, in order that we may know the extent of its use.

F. G. Robb,  
Specialist in Inspection.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 14.

April 5, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

NEWS ITEMS:

Three men who have been in the field are in Washington at present: O. D. Miller returned on Tuesday, after a two months' investigational tour in Florida and Georgia. J. D. Snow, who has been in the Boston office since the closing of Presque Isle field station, arrived in Washington on Wednesday and will assist with Market News work in this office for a week or more. E. E. Conklin, Jr., reached Washington this morning after five months of investigational work and cooperation with snipping-point inspectors.

Robert Bier also expects to be in Washington by Saturday, April 7. On April 1 he visited Mr. Hauck at Lakeland, Fla. On the 2nd he was at Ocala; on the 3rd at Jacksonville; on the 4th at Charleston, S. C., and on the 5th at Wilmington, N. C., conferring with persons interested in the grading of vegetables.

Mr. Robb left last night for Cleveland, Tenn., where he will confer today with strawberry growers and shippers regarding possible shipping-point inspection service on Eastern Tennessee berries. On Friday he will visit Spring City, Tenn., for the same purpose, and then will proceed to Knoxville and to Atlanta. By Monday he expects to be in Jacksonville, Fla., where he will meet Mr. Samson and accompany him on a tour through that State.

Mr. Samson is in Trenton, N. J., today, consulting State officials on the subject of fruit and vegetable standardization. After returning to the Washington office for the last two days of the week, he will leave on Sunday for Florida, joining Mr. Robb at Jacksonville.

It is expected that W. H. Hall will resume charge of the Market News work in Chicago by April 10. He will leave Los Angeles tonight for Chicago.

Last Monday, C. L. Brown, of the Rochester office, addressed the farm management seminar at the State Agricultural College, Ithaca, N. Y., on the Market News Service of this Bureau.

Mr. Stillwell expects to be in Philadelphia Saturday, conferring with State marketing officials and representatives of the Fruit and Vegetable Division regarding cooperative market reporting work in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York City.

Having visited the Washington office last Saturday, V. D. Callanan stopped at Hammond, La., to confer with G. E. Prince, en route to Laredo, Texas. Mr. Callanan's first market report on onions will be issued at Laredo on Friday.

NEWS ITEMS (Continued):

Most of the Inspection offices are rushed with work at present. New York reported more than 40 applications on Monday and 30 up to noon Tuesday. A. H. Polster, formerly of the St. Louis staff, has been transferred to New York and S. F. Shreve, of Baltimore, also has gone to that city to assist in this period of extra-heavy inspections. W. E. Harrison is handling Baltimore inspections this week in Mr. Shreve's absence.

Succeeding Mr. Polster at St. Louis, R. I. Ringer arrived in that office from Chicago on April 2. During Mr. Gibson's absence he reported the St. Louis market, but regularly Mr. Ringer will help with inspection work.

The Cleveland office is so busy on inspections that R. C. Bish has wired that he will have to omit reports of the Cleveland wholesale market for the next few days.

James R. Duncan, a cooperative Supervising Inspector at Grand Junction, Colo., has been reinstated in this Bureau and will be a Food Products Inspector. This terminates his period of service with the State of Colorado. Mr. Duncan had two years of training in the Agricultural College of the University of Nebraska, one year on a fruit farm in the Yakima Valley of Washington, and five years' experience in operating a fruit farm and nursery in Nebraska. In 1915 he was appointed Secretary of the State Horticultural Society, a semi-public agency in Nebraska. Mr. Duncan's former experience in this Bureau was from 1917 to 1920, when he was employed as Assistant Fruit Crop Specialist in the Division of Crop Estimates. He was given his cooperative appointment as District Supervising Inspector in Colorado last July. Mr. Duncan is expected to meet O. M. Harsha, Kansas City Inspector, at Topeka, Kans., today for a conference with parties interested in shipping-point inspection of potatoes in the Haw Valley. He will then proceed to Kansas City where he will substitute for Mr. Harsha, while the latter goes on annual leave, April 9 to 25.

J. K. Boyd resumed charge of the market reporting work in Pittsburgh last Saturday, after a week's illness, and W. C. Lynn returned to Harrisburg. Mr. Lynn substituted for Mr. Boyd during his absence.

For the purpose of interviewing railroad officials who report shipments of fruits and vegetables, F. M. Patton is on a short trip to Philadelphia, Syracuse, Albany and New York.

J. H. Hoover reached Chicago on Monday, following the temporary closing of the Inspection Service at Wichita, Kans. He will assist with inspection work in Chicago. F. E. Bailey, who was recently appointed from Spokane, Wash., is expected to reach Chicago by April 10.

THE FORT WORTH OFFICE of the Inspection Service will be closed this Saturday for the summer. M. C. Gregory will go on a week's leave, and then report for temporary duty in Pittsburgh about April 16.



NEWS ITEMS (Continued):

W. H. Stanton, of the New York office, has been appointed by the Secretary as a member of the Board of Tea Appeals in connection with the enforcement of the tea inspection Act. This is one of the oldest regulations concerning food, dating from 1883. Official standards as to purity and quality have been promulgated and tea examiners in seven cities examine samples of all tea imported. If any stock is rejected, the importer has the right of appeal and the case is heard before the Board of Tea Appeals in New York City. Three technical employees of this Department constitute the Board, and there are two alternates. Mr. Stanton is one of the three recent appointees.

Opposite the elevator on the 7th floor of the Bieber Building (Washington) - the floor on which the Chief's office is located - is a large exhibit case attached to the wall. It is used to display new photographs and other material of interest to visitors and employees. The displays are very attractive and of educational value. For some time there has been exhibited in this case a fine series of colored photographs, showing diseased and decayed specimens of fruits and vegetables. In the center of one group of 3 of these pictures was a placard bearing these words: "What Shipping-Point Inspection Keeps Out of Your Food Supply." In the center of the remaining 8 photographs was this inscription: "Cooperative Shipping-Point Inspection Is Being Developed in the Following 23 States:" In addition to the 19 States with which most of our employees are familiar as having been centers for shipping-point inspection during the past season, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Texas also are listed.

See pages 2 and 3 of this week's B.A.E. News for an excellent account of the first year's results in Government operation of Center Market, Washington. Mr. Kitchen is Superintendent of Center Market and has made quite a record during his first year in that position. The article shows the extent of business transacted in the market and the improvements which have been made and which will be made.

On the Market Station Address list, the name of C. L. Brown should be substituted for Walter Kingsbury's, in charge of the Boston office.

The last issue of Weather, Crops and Markets, dated March 31, contains the fruit and vegetable review on page 292, with special paragraph on potatoes; an article on Greeley, Colo., potatoes on page 295, also an item about lettuce from the Imperial Valley. Page 300 contains the recent acreage figures on early and intermediate potatoes, early tomatoes and cantaloupes, and early and intermediate strawberries. Page 301 gives the acreage, indicated yield and forecast of production of Bermuda and Creole onions for 1923.

On March 30 another mimeographed release was distributed by the Division of Crop and Live Stock Estimates. This includes the commercial acreage and forecast of production of asparagus, cabbage, lettuce and tomatoes in the early producing States; also the commercial acreage of cucumbers, early Irish potatoes, and strawberries in certain counties of Alabama, and of tomatoes in Copiah County and Hinds County, Mississippi.

NEWS ITEMS (Continued):

V. G. Gibson, in charge of Market News work in St. Louis, was called out of the city last Saturday on account of the death of a relative. He returned to duty yesterday.

Leaving Washington early next week, H. A. Spilman expects to go on a 10 days' trip to Louisville, Ky.; Marietta, Ohio; New Albany, Ind., and other points in the interest of the enforcement of the Standard Container Act.

Please examine your copy of the list of Food Products Inspectors and their addresses, and be sure that the following changes have been made:-

BOSTON: Substitute C. L. Brown for Walter Kingsbury as an assistant Inspector in that city.

CHICAGO: Cancel R. N. Balster, F. M. Coray and R. L. Ringer. Add to the Chicago list J. H. Hoover and F. E. Bailey; also A. H. Mason after May 15.

FORT WORTH: Mark this office "Temporarily Closed."

KANSAS CITY: Add J. R. Duncan as assisting temporarily.

LOS ANGELES: Be sure that the office of Messrs. Butner and Wilson is given as Room 285 instead of Room 217, Wholesale Terminal Bldg.

NEW YORK: Cancel M. L. Benn. Add to the New York list M. L. Henry, A. H. Polster, and H. C. Miller.

PHILADELPHIA: Cancel H. C. Miller and add R. N. Balster.

PITTSBURGH: Cancel M. L. Henry and add M. C. Gregory.

SACRAMENTO: Cancel L. J. Weishaar after April 15.

ST. LOUIS: Cancel A. H. Polster and add R. L. Ringer.

SAN DIEGO: Substitute Walter Kingsbury for A. H. Mason after May 1.

WICHITA: Mark this office "Temporarily Closed."

1a. RATE OF STRAWBERRY SHIPMENTS FROM LOUISIANA.

In a letter of March 30, G. E. Prince, in charge of the temporary office at Hammond, La., makes the following comments concerning berry shipments:-

"Strawberries recovered from the effects of the cold weather sooner than was expected. Continued cool and cloudy weather this week, with rains, has retarded the movement, but 9 cars were shipped from the district on Monday, 12 on Tuesday, 6 Wednesday, and 14 Thursday. Today, however, it seems that 4 or 5 cars will cover the movement. Tomorrow (March 31) is expected to be another good day with a probable movement of 20 cars.

"Shipments will be irregular for the next week or 10 days and there may be a gap around the 10th of April for a few days, when shipments may be very light. After that time the movement will be heavy, as the berries 'put on' the vines since the cold weather will begin ripening. The weather during the past 10 days has been such that rapid growth has been retarded."



TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTS

## Market News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	C. E. Schultz	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Apr. 14
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GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 221 Ashton Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples*	Oct. 17 Oct. 17	May 1 Nov. 11*
GREELEY, COLO. 214 Post Office Bldg.	885	Mrs. D. G. Dick	Potatoes	Dec. 4	Apr. 15
SANFORD, FLA. Chamber of Commerce	910	J. D. Evers	Celery	Jan. 22	Apr. 28
HAMMOND, LA. Post Office Bldg.	802	G. E. Prince	Berries	Mar. 28	May 10
LAREDO, TEXAS	801	V. D. Callanan	Onions	Apr. 6	May 12

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

HASTINGS, FLA.	851	Unassigned	Potatoes	Apr. 15	May 25
CHADBOURN, N.C.	805	Unassigned	Berries	Apr. 23	May 15
JUDSONIA, ARK.	856	Unassigned	Berries	May 1	May 26
RIPLEY, TENN.	806	Unassigned	Berries	May 1	May 26

\* Report discontinued.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE.1b. PROMPT RELEASE OF NEWS CONCERNING DAMAGE BY COLD WEATHER.

A letter of March 23 from V. G. Gibson, of the St. Louis office, comments on the prompt release of news concerning the damage by cold weather. The reports sent over the leased wire two weeks ago were secured through the Division of Crop and Live Stock Estimates and their field statisticians and in reply to special wires sent to various producing sections. Mr. Gibson's letter follows:

"The recent information that was released relative to damage done by the cold weather last Sunday night has been very much appreciated by the members of the trade. Unfortunately, though, it came over the wire too late to be incorporated in the regular bulletin on the day received, but that the trade might get this information as soon as possible I 'phoned it to all those interested, and published it fully in our bulletins of the 22nd and 23rd.

"From remarks passed on the street here, it would appear that similar efforts for disseminating such information following cold spells have never been exerted before, and it has met with considerable favor in this instance. If I may suggest, I believe it would be a good policy in the future, when any section of the country is affected by serious cold weather, that we gather as reliable information as can be obtained as quickly as possible and get it on the wire the first thing in the morning, so that all stations might incorporate it in the daily bulletin."

2b. SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT FROM MINNEAPOLIS.

In the semi-annual report of market station activities at Minneapolis, the following paragraph is of general interest:

"The marketgram is issued from this office on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and our mailing list contains 68 names. Each morning we prepare a special potato bulletin containing the carlot movement, the Minneapolis f.o.b. and Chicago market. This is supplied to all the daily newspapers in Minneapolis and St. Paul, to the one big broadcasting radio station in Minneapolis and to the potato dealers who can be reached easily by messenger. The other dealers, especially those in St. Paul, receive this same information by telephone."

3b. TABLE OF "SERVICES" TO BE DISCONTINUED.

The table of "services" which is usually published in the first Division Letter each month will be discontinued for the present. However, a careful record will be kept in the Washington office of all service messages, and if deemed necessary the attention of individual market stations will be called to the "services" charged against them. As great care as always should be maintained regarding unnecessary "services" and every effort should continue to be made to keep service messages to the minimum.

F. W. STILLWELL,  
Specialist in Market News,  
(Fruits and Vegetables)



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK MARCH 26-31, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME.)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted and Delevered
<b>EASTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Philadelphia-Misc.	12:54	1:14	20	11	4,950	380
New York- Misc. R	12:57	1:23	26	11	5,180	556
Boston- Misc. R	2:14	3:57	103	16	7,175	300
Washington- Misc.	12:33	2:20	107	10	3,150	--
<b>WESTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Chicago- Misc.	1:16	1:27	11	10	5,075	325
Minneapolis- Misc.	12:50	1:15	25	12	8,775	132
St. Louis- Misc. Q	12:49	1:14	25	14	3,675	275
Cincinnati- Misc. Q	1:56	2:27	31	10	4,340	650
Pittsburgh- Misc.	12:20	1:07	47	10	3,272	49
Kansas City- Misc. Q	12:29	1:35	66	10	4,745	150
Washington (Nat'l) BFHMQR#6 Plants, Ship. Information			108		44,490	1,948
TOTAL	1:02#	1:43#	45#	222	94,827	4,765
" previous week	12:56#	1:30#	34#	213	91,093	4,689
<b>WESTERN OFFICE (Mar. 19-24)</b>						
Los Angeles-Misc. LR#3	2:56	3:55	59	17	13,775	--
" " previous week	3:13	4:07	54	17	13,762	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			2,788		1,323,845	72,150

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK MARCH 26-31, INC. (REDUCED TO CENTRAL TIME.)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
El Centro - L	12:10	1:40	3,443	503	--	--
Grand Rapids - R	12:15	2:20	9,200	1,310	--	--
Greeley - R	11:45	12:50	6,668	1,105	--	--
Hammond - S	1:54	3:00	2,322	575	--	--
*Idaho Falls - R	2:10	2:50	2,550	845	61	--
Rochester - BR	2:22	3:08	3,343	528	--	--
Sanford - H	1:06	2:28	3,429	544	2	--
Waupaca - R	12:09	2:17	6,660	1,110	--	--
TOTAL	12:59#	2:19#	37,595			
" previous week	12:55#	2:10#	33,799			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			516,801			

\* Reports 3 times a week. # Average time.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 1,912,796.

FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE.1c. USE MORE CARE IN TRANSMITTING CHECKS TO WASHINGTON.

The Office of the Disbursing Clerk reports that several field offices are not following instructions regarding the transmission of checks for inspection fees. In a number of cases these checks have been included with correspondence addressed to this office or in an envelope marked "Chief, Bureau of Markets." This should not be done, as all checks should go direct to the Office of the Disbursing Clerk, U. S. Department of Agriculture. If the envelopes bearing the above-mentioned address are used, you should write "Disbursing Clerk, U. S. Department of Agriculture" on them.

Several checks have been received which are not in negotiable form, - that is, they are not properly endorsed if made out to an individual, or the face of the check is not properly filled because of failure to sign the check, fill in the amount, or some other reason. Unless all checks are carefully examined by some one in the branch office before they are forwarded to Washington, many errors are sure to occur, which will entail additional work on the part of the field office as well as the Disbursing Office, for such checks and the corresponding fee slips must be returned and be properly made out, endorsed, and then sent in with another letter of transmittal.

2c. UNPAID BILLS TO JANUARY 15.

Only two offices have sent in bills for unpaid inspection fees before January 15. It is scarcely possible that all the other offices have secured full payment for inspections made before that date, and we again ask that all offices forward to Washington all these bills that remain unpaid.

3c. LOUISIANA STATE STRAWBERRY INSPECTION.

All cars of Louisiana strawberries are to be inspected under a State law, and notices of such inspections probably will be found in practically all cars from Louisiana. There is no cooperation between the Federal Department and the State in this work and it is not necessary to mention the presence of such cards in the cars. No attention need be paid to the statements on the car reports.

4c. GIVE COMPLETE DATA ON REINSPECTION REPORTS.

Some offices are not following the instructions given in Par. 1c, Division Letter of February 23, regarding the monthly reports of reinspections. Please show on a separate sheet the originating State and original certificate number (if known); the reinspection certificate number, commodity, and whether the original report was sustained or reversed.

5c. AN ILLUSTRATION FOR THE INSPECTOR'S HANDBOOK.

Under separate cover an illustration of a "ricey" head of cauliflower is being mailed to each Inspector. This is not an ideal photograph but shows the granular appearance better than any others we have been able to secure. Add this picture to the cauliflower section of the Inspector's Handbook.



6c. AMENDMENTS TO RULES AND REGULATIONS OF FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION LAW.

The following amendments have been made to the Rules and Regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture given in Circular No. 160, Office of the Secretary:

Regulation 7, Section 1, is amended to read:

The inspector shall sign and issue separate certificate for each lot of food products inspected by him: Provided, That when application for inspection is made by any branch of the Federal Government or by a public institution or by a public carrier, for the purpose of determining whether food products for use by such applicant comply with contract specifications therefor, a formal certificate need not be issued, but the fact of such compliance or noncompliance may be indicated by appropriate stamp or mark on such products or the containers thereof, or otherwise, in the discretion of the inspector. Each kind of fruit or vegetable shall constitute a separate lot but different varieties of the same kind of fruit or vegetable shall not be so considered.

Regulation 9, paragraph 2, the last sentence is amended to read:

When the lot involved is in excess of a carload or is not contained in cars, the quantity shall be calculated in terms of carloads and fractions thereof of the maximum customary size for such carloads and the rates aforesaid applied, except that when inspections are made on which formal certificates are not issued, as provided in Regulation 7, Section 1, or when the products inspected cannot readily be calculated in terms of carlots, charges for inspection may be based on the time consumed by the inspector in connection with such inspection computed at the rate of \$2.00 per hour.

These amendments have been made for the purpose of handling inspections for steamship lines or other organizations that cannot transfer funds for use of our Service (as is done by the Navy and Treasury Departments) for inspection work on basis of contract specifications. They will not affect our commercial work in any respect but will enable us to make inspections on lots of produce consisting of several different commodities and issue reports showing whether or not the products comply with specifications, thus obviating the necessity of issuing separate certificates on each commodity and making a charge therefor. At the present time the New York office is the only one that will be affected by these amendments.

W. C. HACKLEMAN,  
Supervising Inspector.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D.C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 15

April 12, 1925.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. OUR PROPERTY RECORDS TRANSFERRED TO BUREAU PROPERTY SECTION.

All of the property inventory records of the Fruit and Vegetable Division are being transferred today to the Bureau Property Section, in accordance with the recently-adopted plan of consolidating all property records in one Bureau office. F. E. Hoage, property clerk in this Division, is being transferred to the Bureau Property Section to become one of the assistants to Mr. Pevare.

All requisitions for supplies or inventorial articles should be mailed to the Fruit and Vegetable Division, as heretofore. Receipts for articles already requested, but not yet delivered, should be mailed to the Fruit and Vegetable Division, as in the past, but all subsequent receipts for property, transfers on Forms F&V-1 or B.M.-70, reports of lost property on Form A.E.-102, and inventories should be sent directly to J. F. Pevare, who is in charge of the Section of Property and Supplies. Correspondence will be conducted directly between Mr. Pevare and our various branch offices and individual field men.

In other words, all field men and branch offices will be held accountable to the Bureau officials, but articles will be furnished only after examination and approval of requisitions by the Washington office of the Fruit and Vegetable Division. No article may be transferred out of this Division to any other Division or Bureau without the consent of W. L. Evans, of the Washington office. Our Division will still control the property in its possession, but no longer will keep property records.

NEWS ITEMS:

After more than 5 years' service in inspection and standardization work, L. J. Weishaar will resign from his cooperative position in California at the end of this month, instead of April 15 as erroneously mentioned in last week's Division Letter. He will become supervisor of field operations for the Earl Fruit Company and will continue to have headquarters in Sacramento. His new work will keep him in close touch with Federal and State activities in California, so that he will still have an interest in the work of this Bureau. Mr. Weishaar was appointed as an Inspector in January, 1918. He served consecutively in the offices at Memphis, Kansas City and Chicago until the middle of 1920. On July 1 of that year, he was given a cooperative appointment with the State of California and has since been located at Sacramento. A few months ago he succeeded Fred W. Read as Chief of the California Bureau of Standardization. In all of his assignments Mr. Weishaar has rendered excellent service and he will be missed from our staff. He takes with him our best wishes for success in his new field of endeavor.

At the annual meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Association of State Marketing Officials, to be held in the Bieber Building, Washington, early next week, it is expected that project leaders of the Fruit and Vegetable Division will share in the discussions on market reporting, inspection and standardization work.



NEWS ITEMS (Continued):

F. S. Kinsey is completing the season's work in the Northwest. Writing from Roseburg, Oregon, on April 3, he said that he expected to attend the annual meeting of the State Board of Horticulture at Portland on April 9. On Tuesday of this week he was to be at Hood River; on Wednesday at Roseburg, and today at Medford, Oregon. He will then go by automobile to Los Angeles, Calif., where he will enjoy a period of leave. He can be reached through the Los Angeles office until the last week of April.

Having spent a few days in the Washington office, E. E. Conklin, Jr., left on Monday night for Austin, Texas, where he is conferring with George B. Terrell, Commissioner of Agriculture, and other officials regarding shipping-point inspection service in Texas. Within a few days, Mr. Conklin expects to be located in the territory north of Laredo, where a large number of cars of onions probably will be inspected for C. D. Jarratt, of San Antonio. Mr. Conklin will have general charge of this work, being assisted by State inspectors.

A. L. Thomas, who served as telegraph operator in the Rochester office this season, visited Washington on Monday. He has now proceeded to North Carolina for a few days' leave en route to Hastings, Fla., where he will try out the radio in that section. Effort will be made to receive daily market reports broadcast from the Arlington station. If successful, this plan may be operated at a number of field stations in the South.

Robert Bier is again in Washington and is at present in charge of the Grades and Standards office during Mr. Samson's absence in Florida. Miss Watt also returned to duty this week, after a brief vacation. Miss Dena Hammer is back at her desk, following an illness of two months' duration.

Opening of the field station at Hastings, Fla., has been deferred at least until April 23, because of the light shipments to date. It has not yet been decided who will be in charge of that office or the temporary station at Chadbourn, N.C.

Mrs. Ethel Mills recently returned from a vacation in Florida but has now been obliged to go to the George Washington University Hospital on account of her health. During her absence, Miss Sheehan is handling the personnel work, Letters of Authorization, etc.

Three field stations of the Market News Service will close this Saturday: Idaho Falls, Waupaca and Greeley. C. E. Schultz, who has been in charge of the work in Idaho since September, will go on leave at his home in Lindsay, Calif. W. H. Mosier, in charge of the Waupaca office, expects to take a vacation at his home in Columbus, Ohio, before proceeding to Judsonia, Ark., to operate the field station on strawberries. Mrs. D. G. Dick, who has been operating the News Service at Greeley since Mr. Prince's departure, will continue work with State officials in Colorado during the summer and fall.

L. G. Schultz, Supervising Inspector in Idaho, is working entirely on State funds during the months of March, April, May and June. He is doing orchard inspection work and still has his headquarters with the State Dept. of Agriculture at Boise.



NEWS ITEMS (Continued):

At another place in this Division Letter, mention is made of the transfer of F. E. Hodge to the Bureau Section of Property and Supplies, under J. F. Pevare. It is understood that he will handle the purchasing end of the work for this Bureau, with the assistance of a number of clerks. Mr. Hodge joined the Bureau staff in 1917, by transfer from the Bureau of Soils where he was employed for about 11 years. He first handled property and supplies for the Grain Division and since 1920 has been doing similar work for the Fruit and Vegetable Division. In these three years he has brought our inventorial and property records to a high degree of accuracy and has put that phase of the work on a systematic basis.

The transfer of Walter Kingsbury from Boston to San Diego has been delayed a week. He will not leave Boston until April 21 and will not take charge of the Inspection work at San Diego until the second week of May. This also will delay the transfer of Mr. Mason from San Diego.

F. M. Patton is on a short trip this week to confer with railroad officials at Cincinnati, Cleveland and Detroit. He is endeavoring to improve the telegraphic reports of shipments.

On April 6, R. C. Butner, Supervising Inspector in Southern California, attended a meeting of the Coachella Valley onion growers and shippers to discuss the grading and shipping-point inspection of this product during the coming season.

Word was received this morning from Mr. Robb. He was at West Palm Beach, Fla., and expected to proceed today with the County Agent to points on the Lake. He reports that probably 100 cars of strawberries will be shipped from Cleveland, in Eastern Tennessee, beginning about May 15. Klondike berries in that section were damaged 10% by the freeze on March 30, when the temperature was as low as 22°. Aromas were not far enough advanced to be injured.

H. V. DeMott, auditor for the Domestic Wool Section, left last Saturday on a two weeks' trip to the West. He is scheduled to visit Cheyenne, Wyo.; Billings, Mont.; Grand Rapids, Mich., and Syracuse, N.Y. He attended the trial of an excess profits case in the court at Cheyenne, and at other points will examine the accounts of wool dealers. J. S. Bohannon, of the Solicitor's office, also attended the Cheyenne trial and will confer with District Attorneys regarding pending cases at Chicago, Detroit, Syracuse, New York City, and Philadelphia. Word received this afternoon indicates that the case at Cheyenne was decided in favor of the Government, and that the defendants - The Chicago Hide, Fur and Wool House - will pay approximately \$6,386, the amount of excess profits plus interest on deferred payment.

Another excess wool profits case will be tried at Syracuse early next week. W. L. Evans will leave Washington on Sunday to attend this trial jointly with Messrs. DeMott and Bohannon. Admer D. Miller, formerly of this Bureau, also will go from New York City as a witness.



NEWS ITEMS (Continued):

When Secretary Wallace and W. A. Jump, Administrative Assistant, visited Kansas City recently, the various offices of the Department gave a banquet in their honor. About 50 members from the different projects were in attendance, and at the conclusion of the banquet Mr. Wallace and Mr. Jump gave very interesting addresses which were enjoyed by all. (This item was received from our Kansas City office.)

Mr. Sherman expects to attend a meeting of the California Society this evening, in Washington, and among other things will talk on the remarkable development of the lettuce industry in Imperial Valley.

Miss Anna L. Leonari, of the Philadelphia Market News office, is absent on account of a sprained ankle.

A wire just received from Chicago office of the Inspection Service states that H. A. Arenz, of Milwaukee, is sick with the grippe. J. H. Hoover has been sent to handle the Milwaukee inspections this week. F. J. Baehler, also of the Chicago staff, is absent on account of sickness. F. E. Bailey arrived from Spokane on Monday. W. H. Hall, of the Market News Service, reached Chicago a few days ago, after 10 weeks' work in California.

All material for Weather, Crops and Markets, whether written in Washington or received from the field, has to pass through the hands of the editor of that paper for final inspection and publication. During 1920 and 1921, when the paper was known as The Market Reporter, and since the inauguration of Weather, Crops and Markets in January, 1922, Miller Hamilton has served as editor. As announced in The B.A.E. News this week, Mr. Hamilton has now secured a transfer to the Publicity Division of the Forest Service and will write articles for periodicals and the press. F. F. George, of the Information Division of our Bureau, is handling Weather, Crops and Markets for the present, with the help of the former assistant-editor, Miss Day.

Weather, Crops and Markets for April 7 contains the following fruit and vegetable material: Page 305 - Summary of week's markets. Page 314 - Weekly review, with special paragraph on cabbage. List of field stations. Page 315 - Shipments, arrivals and prices. Page 316 - Special articles on Idaho and Maine potatoes, and Louisiana strawberries. Chart showing usual shipping-season for fresh asparagus in leading States. Page 319 - List of new publications. Page 324 - Commercial acreage and forecast of production of early asparagus, cabbage, lettuce and tomatoes. Page 325 - Farm value of certain crops per acre. Artichoke production in California. Page 326 - Effects of weather on potatoes and other truck crops, and on fruits. The coming issue, to be dated April 14, will contain numerous articles on fruits and vegetables and a great deal of information from Division of Crop Estimates.



TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTS

## Market News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 221 Ashton Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples*	Oct. 17 Oct. 17	May 1 Nov. 11*
SANFORD, FLA. Chamber of Commerce	910	J. D. Evers	Celery	Jan. 22	Apr. 28
HAMMOND, LA. Post Office Bldg.	802	G. E. Prince	Berries	Mar. 28	May 10
LAREDO, TEXAS Chamber of Commerce.	801	V. D. Callanan	Onions	Apr. 6	May 12

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

HASTINGS, FLA.	851	Unassigned	Potatoes	Apr. 23	May 25
CHADBOURN, N. C.	805	Unassigned	Berries	Apr. 23	May 15
JUDSONIA, ARK.	856	W. H. Mosier	Berries	May 1	May 26
RIPLEY, TENN.	806	G. E. Prince	Berries	May 1	May 26

The following stations close on date indicated:

IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	C. E. Schultz	Potatoes	Sept. 19	<u>CLOSED</u> Apr. 14
WAUPACA, WIS. Chamber of Commerce.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 14
GREELEY, COLO. 214 P. O. Bldg.	885	Mrs. D. G. Dick	Potatoes	Dec. 4	Apr. 14

\* Report discontinued.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE.1b. WHEN DO YOU DESIRE YOUR VACATION?

Perhaps it is a little early to think about vacations but we must begin to formulate plans along this line immediately. It is desirable that some technical men take their annual leave early - that is, between now and July 1, because we can arrange to relieve them better than after July 1. As far as possible, vacations will be granted according to the preference of each man. Every technical employee, therefore, is requested to advise this office immediately whether he has any special preference as to the time for his vacation and to state especially whether leave prior to July 1 will be acceptable,

2b. DEFINITION OF "MOVEMENT."

In our market news work, the word "movement" has been used in two senses: (1) to denote the actual physical transportation or shipment of a commodity, or (2) to refer to the amount and rate of business done, i.e., sales movement.

When preparing market reviews or news stories, "movement" can be used in the sense of "shipment," to avoid too much repetition of the latter term.

In the market wires, however, the term must be used in only one way. Use "shipments" or "haulings" to indicate physical movement, but use "movement" only as related to sales. "Movement limited" refers to a quiet market, with only a few small orders booked; "movement brisk" indicates a condition where salesmen are rapidly disposing of their stock on hand. Field men should be especially careful in their use of this term in f.o.b. wires.

3b. POTATO SITUATION AT GREELEY, COLORADO.

In a letter of April 5, Mrs. D. G. Dick, in charge of the Greeley field station, gives the following information concerning the local market:

"During the past week, March 26-31 inclusive, shipments from the Greeley district as reported by railroads totaled 316 cars, an average of over 50 cars per day. Due to successive storms, country roads for the previous week had been almost impassable and there were practically no haulings. Outside markets were improving, and these conditions stimulated the local market, until, when the week of heavy shipments began, the grower was receiving 60¢ per 100 lbs. for sacked Round Whites, compared with 45¢ a week before. Accumulated orders, however, were soon filled and the movement has dropped gradually this week. During the peak of the movement, the price strengthened at one time to 75¢; but with a steadily weakening market, the general range is now 55¢-60¢.

"Before this week of heavy shipments, some of the best-informed shippers of the district estimated remaining stocks on hand at around 2,000 to 2,500 cars. Subtracting the approximately 400 cars shipped since that time, it may be estimated now that from 1,600 to 2,100 cars remain. The total this season to date is 700 cars lower than last year's total to the same date. Favorable weather is turning the attention of growers to other work, and shippers predict a very late, long-drawn-out movement, estimating that there will be a steady but not heavy movement from now until June 1. There was considerable interest in market developments during the recent activity, and shippers now declare their belief in a stronger local market within a short time."



4b. TWO ADDITIONAL SUMMARIES ISSUED.

This week two additional summaries of field deals have been issued:-

"Summary of the 1922 Colorado Cantaloupe Deal" and

"Summary of the Southwestern Idaho and Eastern Oregon  
White Potato Deal - Season of 1922."

5b. SEASON FOR VARIOUS PRODUCTS ON PHILADELPHIA MARKET.

When W. C. Lynn was on the Philadelphia staff, he and Mr. Biddle compiled an extensive statistical report, showing the usual season for 55 fruits and vegetables on the Philadelphia market. The tabulation is by commodities, and under each product are listed the States from which that product is received in Philadelphia. The opening and closing dates for each State are shown in four consecutive years, thereby giving a good average for the season.

6b. RECAPITULATION OF PHILADELPHIA UNLOADS.

At the close of each year, E. R. Biddle publishes a recapitulation of the unload reports for Philadelphia. This covers 4 mimeographed pages and affords a valuable comparison with the records for previous years. The opening table gives unloads by months and by products during 4 years. Then there are separate tables for each of 11 commodities, giving the 1922 unloads by months and by States of origin.

7b. WIDE DISTRIBUTION OF IDAHO POTATOES.

Recent potato reports received from C. E. Schultz, in charge of the Idaho Falls office, have certain destinations checked on them, to call attention to the increasing movement to cities in the Middle West, the South and the East. Idaho potatoes are now being shipped to such destinations as:

Indianapolis, Nashville, Spring City, Tenn., Chattanooga, Cleveland, New Orleans, Vicksburg, Alexandria, Shreveport, Mobile, Greenville, Tampa, Miami, Jacksonville, Atlanta, Philadelphia, Newark, Brooklyn and New York,

E. W. STILLWELL,  
Specialist in Market News  
(Fruits and Vegetables)

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK APRIL 2 - 7, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted & Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Philadelphia- Misc.	1.21	1:41	20	12	4,950	330
New York - Misc. R	12:47	1:20	33	10	5,231	516
Washington- Misc.	1:07	2:18	71	10	3,200	--
Boston - .. Misc. R	2:07	4:14	127	16	7,185	300
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Chicago - Misc.	1:18	1:34	16	10	5,075	328
St. Louis- Misc. Q	12:07	12:27	20	12	3,540	275
Kansas City- Misc. Q	12:28	12:52	24	13	6,457	121
Minneapolis- Misc.	12:51	1:18	27	12	8,820	132
Cincinnati- Misc. Q	1:59	2:28	29	10	4,340	650
Pittsburgh- Misc.	12:12	12:42	30	10	3,285	49
Washington (Nat'l) BFEMQRS #6 Honey, P'muts, Ship. Infm, 101					40,509	1,968
TOTAL	1:02#	1:41#	39#	216	92,992	4,667
" previous week	1:02#	1:48#	46#	222	94,827	4,765
<u>WESTERN OFFICE (Mar 26-31)</u>						
Los Angeles- Misc. LR#3	3:02	4:09	67	17	13,775	--
" " previous week	2:56	3:55	59	17	13,775	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				3,021	1,430,612	76,817

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK APRIL 2-7, INC. (REDUCED TO CENTRAL TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Grand Rapids - R		12:08	1:34	7,890	1,310	--	--
Greeley- R		12:16	1:18	6,686	1,108	--	--
Hammond- S		2:00	3:05	1,630	272	--	53
*Idaho Falls- R		2:10	2:40	2,580	860	2	--
Laredo- M		1:46	6:45	1,400	700	--	--
Sanford- H		1:32	2:46	3,460	544	--	--
Vaupaca- R		12:13	2:22	6,660	1,110	--	--
TOTAL		1:09 #	2:56#	30,300			
" previous week		12:59 #	2:19#	37,595			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				547,107			

# Average time. \* Reports 3 times a week.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 2,064,536.



FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE.1c. THE CHANCE TO GET YOUR ANNUAL LEAVE EARLY.

The prospect of needing a number of Federal supervisors for shipping-point inspection work during the summer makes it advisable to grant all the annual leave that is possible before the busy season of the year arrives. Mr. Yaden has already requested the Inspectors in the Western District to indicate their preferences for annual leave, and it is desired that all members of the Eastern District who prefer to take their leave within the next few months, or who have a decided preference as to the time that they will take leave, inform this office of their desires in this matter. It probably will not be possible to grant as much leave in July and August as has formerly been the case and we desire to give everyone an equal opportunity.

2c. POOR QUALITY OF FLORIDA CELERY AND CALIFORNIA LETTUCE.

Mr. Bier reports that most shipments of Florida celery at this time show some Black Heart or worm injury. The Black Heart is frequently slight but, under proper conditions for its growth, Slimy Soft Rot or Watery Soft Rot may develop. The worm injury occurring at this time is principally caused by the web worm and affects the tops and small upper branches. Earlier in the season most of the worm injury was due to cut worms and occurred on the inside of the lower part of the branches.

Mr. Butner states that most shipments of California lettuce now show considerable tip burn, and many cars are not being inspected at shipping point because they will not meet requirements of No. 1 grade.

3c. MEXICAN TOMATO AND OREGON BROCCOLI INSPECTION DEALS CLOSED.

The inspection of Mexican tomatoes which was being carried on by Mr. Wiley of California at Nogales, Arizona, closed last week with a total of about 90 inspections.

The inspection of broccoli at Roseburg, Oregon, and nearby points will close this week. Approximately 75 inspections have been made of this product.

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"TIME indeed is a sacred gift, and each day is a little life."  
Sir John Lubbock.

"SUCCESS in life is not so much a matter of talent or opportunity  
as of concentration and perseverance."

"WHEN a man is wrapped up in himself, he makes a pretty small parcel."

"SELF SACRIFICE lies at the door of all great usefulness."

(The above quotations were inserted by the editor as fillers)

4c.

## INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF MARCH, 1923.

MARKETS	Total Fruits C/L & L.C.L.	Total Vege- tables C/L & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total same Month 1922	Inspec- tions for Car- riers	Declin- ed for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certifi- cate Copy Fees
Atlanta	31	30	61	13	9	-	\$ 232	\$ 7.50	\$ 7
Baltimore	11	19	30	83	1	-	116	2.50	2
Boston	36	52	88	77	13	1	360	-	6
Buffalo	25	13	38	28	2	1	144	5.00	3
Chicago	180	131	311	289	12	1	1132	72.50	29
Cincinnati	23	45	68	52	-	-	264	10.00	2
Cleveland	13	70	83	92	19	1	324	5.00	13
Columbus	6	16	22	23	1	-	88	-	-
Denver	2	5	7	-	-	-	28	-	-
Detroit	25	50	75	45	12	-	264	15.00	3
Erie	2	1	3	-	1	-	12	-	-
Fort Worth	10	8	18	-	1	-	64	5.00	-
Harrisburg	1	6	7	4	-	-	28	-	-
Houston	24	20	44	-	1	-	144	15.00	4
Indianapolis	11	20	31	37	1	-	108	10.00	2
Kansas City	29	43	72	73	5	-	268	12.50	2
Los Angeles	2	8	10	4	3	-	40	-	1
Memphis	12	31	43	20	24	-	164	-	8
Milwaukee	44	15	59	38	6	-	216	12.50	-
Minneapolis	35	43	78	146	-	5	300	7.50	4
New Orleans	20	31	51	33	29	-	196	5.00	21
New York	228	185	413	412	73	104	1420	145.00	7
Norfolk	13	7	20	13	11	-	80	-	-
Omaha	46	14	60	60	1	-	232	5.00	1
Philadelphia	158	71	229	497	159	1	864	32.50	53
Pittsburgh	48	97	145	169	38	3	552	17.50	21
St. Louis	40	185	225	127	67	11	860	25.00	39
Washington	14	23	37	36	13	1	144	2.50	11
Wichita	13	11	24	-	5	-	92	7.50	4
Wilkes-Barre	9	6	15	21	-	5	60	-	1
Total	1111	1256	2367	2392	506	134	\$8796	\$420.00	\$244

## RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections.....	1111	Inspections for Carriers	506
TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections..	1256	Declined for lack of time	134
Grand Total C/L and L.C.L. Inspections..	2367	Total Fees Assessed	\$9,460.00
Decrease from March, 1922.....	1%		



5c.

## INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING MARCH, 1923.

Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps	Total Number of Inspection		ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS									
			Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		Total Quantity INSPECTED		Cuts made to comply with speci- fications		Items billed short- weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	196	10	132197	7920	6734	0	138931	7920	1681	128	0	0
NEW YORK	246	49	415591	210264	14915	300	430506	210564	923	12	0	0
NORFOLK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PHILADELPHIA	166	27	110032	20193	6376	4256	116403	24449	1124	393	0	0
SAN DIEGO	*	55	133252	45947	11270	18687	144522	64634	0	0	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	64	-	132283	-	16950	-	199238	-	1770	-	0	-
SAN PEDRO	*	-	25107	-	1511	-	26613	-	0	-	0	-
TOTALS	672	141	993467	234324	57756	23243	1056223	307567	5498	533	0	0

\* No record of number of inspections.

In addition to the amounts given above the New York office made inspection of 70,142 pounds for the U. S. Health Service Hospitals. In 4 inspections made for the U. S. Shipping Board 11,690 lbs. were passed.

The New York office also inspected 206,623 lbs. of vegetables and 108,951 lbs. of fruits, or a total of 315,574 lbs., for the United States Lines during the month of March. Of this amount 6,140 lbs. were rejected. In addition, 138,490 lbs. of fruits and vegetables were inspected for the Munson Line, of which 4,250 lbs. were rejected on account grade, condition, etc.

No supply ships loaded at Norfolk this month.

At San Pedro, in addition to the fruits and vegetables listed above, there were 3,046 lbs. of bread and 712 lbs. of butter inspected and passed.

W. C. HACKLEMAN,  
Supervising Inspector.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 16

April 19, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. MICHIGAN FRUIT PLENTIFUL IN 1922.

The American Fruit Grower Magazine for April contains an article on Michigan fruits, which is especially interesting in view of the fact that this Division operated a field station at Benton Harbor last fall. It relates particularly to the volume of business handled by the St. Joseph-Michigan Fruit Association in 1922. The business of this one organization amounted to \$765,841. The quantity of grapes and pears handled and the average price received are shown in the following table:

	<u>Quantity.</u>	<u>Average Price.</u>
Grapes, in 4-qt. baskets,	784,025 baskets	\$ 0.21
Bulk grapes,	11,608,372 lbs.	\$65.30 per ton
Bulk Kieffer pears,	2,786,761 lbs.	0.63 per cwt.
Kieffer pears, bus.	39,334 bus.	0.56

Because the grape crop was large in the East, as well as in California, prices did not rule quite so good as in previous years when the crops were lighter or when war-time prices prevailed. The following table gives a comparison of pooling prices on Concord grapes from 1914 to 1922:

<u>Year.</u>	<u>June baskets,</u> <u>per ton.</u>	<u>4-quart</u> <u>baskets.</u>
1914	\$25.60	\$0.097
1915	26.54	.137
1916	35.00	.168
1917	45.02	.173
1918	75.80	.291
1919	77.77	.252
1920	108.37	.308
1921	92.86	.315
1922	65.30	.216

2a. CITRUS MOVEMENT FROM RIO GRANDE VALLEY.

The citrus industry is rapidly assuming important commercial proportions in the lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, according to reports from the State Markets and Warehouse Department at Austin. The shipping season has closed, and figures compiled to March 15 indicate that 39,469 boxes of fruit had been forwarded. On the basis of 400 boxes to a carload, this is the equivalent of approximately 100 cars. Shipments were divided as follows: Grapefruit, 33,158 boxes; oranges, 4,501 boxes; lemons, 105 boxes; limes and miscellaneous citrus, 1,705 boxes. It was estimated on March 15 that 3,105 boxes of fruit remained in storage at Harlingen, about one-third of which may be consumed locally. The improvement in packing facilities has greatly aided in the marketing of the crop. So successful has been the past season that further plantings are being made regularly. There are at present about 1,600,000 citrus trees in the Lower Valley, some 50,000 trees having been planted last fall in the Brownsville section alone.

3a. CONDITIONS IN LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY.

Through J. A. Hunter, of the Austin office, it is learned that the cabbage shipments from the Rio Grande Valley are practically completed. Possibly 50 or 60 cars may yet come from the vicinity of Harlingen. Less than 200 cars of beets and carrots remain to be shipped. An important part of the Lower Valley is now planted to cotton.

Cantaloupe acreage in that section is forecast at 1,950 acres, compared with 770 in 1922 and with 300 acres in 1921. Recent cold weather affected the crop to some extent.

Replantings of cucumbers at Corpus Christi are estimated locally at 500 acres, with conditions favoring first shipments around May 25. Replanted tomatoes in the Aransas Pass district may be ready for market about May 15.

4a. IN WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR APRIL 14:

Page 330 - Spanish Government to Regulate Food Prices.

340 - Weekly review, with special paragraph on strawberries.

- Monthly summary of carlot shipments. Notice the 5-season average introduced as a new feature in this table.

341 - Table of arrivals and prices in city markets, and f.o.b. prices in producing sections.

- Fillers concerning Mexican products, California rhubarb and garlic, and damage from thrips in Imperial Valley.

342 - Review of honey and peanut situation.

- Florida Celery Shipments Continue Heavy.

- Large Volume of Produce Sold at Auction. (This is the second of the auction stories prepared by Admer D. Miller.)

343 - Auction story continued.

- Supplies of Wisconsin Potatoes Still Heavy.

344 - Michigan Potato Shippers Suffer Bad Weather.

- Filler about damage from field crickets in California.

356 - Acreage, Yield, Production, Price and Farm Value, 1920-1922, for Onions and Cabbage (by States).

357 - Similar statistics for Watermelons and Snap Beans.

358 - Similar statistics for Lettuce and Cantaloupes.

359 - Similar statistics for early and intermediate Potatoes, and for Strawberries.

360 - Production of Important Crops in Five Leading States, 1920-22, including Apples, Peaches, Pears and Peanuts.

361 - Similar statistics for Potatoes and Sweet Potatoes.

- Farm Price Comparisons by Months, comparisons with pre-war level.

- Acreage and Revised Forecast of Production of Bermuda-type Onions.

362 - Estimated Farm Price on March 15 of Apples, etc.

- Acreage of Certain Truck Crops in Alabama and Mississippi.

- Estimated Condition of Certain Crops in Florida and California.

363 - Estimated Farm Price of Dry Beans, etc.

- Average of Prices Received by Producers on March 15 for Cabbage, Onions, Beans, Peanuts, etc.

364 - Estimated Farm Price on April 1 of Potatoes and Sweet Potatoes.

- Average of Prices Received by Producers on April 1 for Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes and Apples.



TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTSMarket News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	C. E. Schultz	Potatoes	Sept. 13	Apr. 28
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 221 Ashton Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples*	Oct. 17 Oct. 17	May 15 Nov. 11*
FAMMOND, LA. Post Office Bldg.	802	G. E. Prince	Berries	Mar. 28	May 10
LAREDO, TEXAS Chamber of Commerce	801	V. D. Callanan	Onions	Apr. 6	May 12
HASTINGS, FLA.	851	J. D. Evers	Potatoes	Apr. 23	May 25
CHADBOURN, N. C.	805	J. D. Snow	Berries	Apr. 23	May 15

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

JUDSONIA, ARK.	856	W. H. Mosier	Berries	May 1	May 26
RIPLEY, TENN.	806	G. E. Prince	Berries	May 10	May 26

The following station closes on date indicated:

SANFORD, FLA. Chamber of Commerce	310	J. D. Evers	Celery	Jan. 22	Closed Apr. 21
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\*Report discontinued.

W. H. Mosier on leave in Columbus, Ohio.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. POTATO MARKET REPORTS AS A BASIS FOR INSURANCE.

In a recent letter from Waupaca, Wis., W. H. Mosier explains a new use to which the potato reports are being put:-

"It might be of interest to you to know that a new use for our potato bulletin has just come to my notice. One of the largest potato houses in Wisconsin bases the insurance of its stored stock on our daily quotations and the sum of this protection frequently reaches a quarter of a million dollars at one time. The insurance contracts specify that in case of loss, adjustment must be made on the basis of our quotations at the time the said loss occurred."

2b. TABULATION OF CALIFORNIA SHIPMENTS BY STATIONS.

The Los Angeles office has prepared an elaborate tabulation of the 1922 shipments of 32 fruits and vegetables from stations in California, Arizona and Nevada. That office receives and compiles the monthly mail reports from local freight agents in those three States and it is on the basis of these figures that the booklet has been issued. The material has been mimeographed in response to the frequent requests for such information from shippers, dealers and railroad officials, principally in California. The first table shows the total shipments of each product by months during 1922. Then follows a separate table for each of the 32 products, giving the shipments by billing stations and by months. In this manner the shipping season in each section is definitely designated and it is possible to compare the volume of fruits and vegetables forwarded from each of the leading producing districts.

E. W. STILLWELL,

Specialist in Market News.

BUREAU PARTY

MAY 9

CENTER MARKET



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK APRIL 9-14, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted & Delivered
<b>EASTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Philadelphia-Misc.	1:22	1:42	20	12	4,552	380
New York - Misc. R.	12:44	1:13	29	11	6,267	515
Washington- Misc.	12:59	2:26	85	10	3,190	--
Boston - Misc. R	1:26	4:15	169	16	7,215	300
<b>WESTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Chicago- Misc.	1:06	1:24	18	10	5,075	325
St. Louis - Misc. Q	12:54	1:14	20	13	3,125	560
Kansas City- Misc. Q	12:19	12:46	27	10	4,725	--
Minneapolis- Misc.	12:46	1:14	28	12	8,750	132
Pittsburgh- Misc.	12:11	12:39	28	10	3,291	49
Cincinnati- Misc. QS	1:55	2:26	31	10	4,585	650
Washington-(Nat'l)BFHMORS#6, P'nuts, Snip. Inrm.				96	40,914	1,963
TOTAL	12:58#	1:44#	46#	210	92,089	4,874
" previous week	1:02#	1:41#	39#	216	99,992	4,667
<b>WESTERN OFFICE (April 2-7)</b>						
Los Angeles-Misc. LR #3	3:20	4:28	68	17	13,792	--
" " previous week	3:02	4:09	67	17	13,775	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				3,248	1,536,493	81,691

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK APRIL 9-14, INC. (REDUCED TO CENTRAL TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Grand Rapids - R		12:07	1:36	7,966	1,320	1	--
Greeley - R		11:43	12:38	6,696	1,110	--	--
Hammond - S		1:55	3:20	1,971	329	21	--
*Idaho Falls - R		2:05	2:25	2,595	865	1	--
Laredo - M		2:19	3:23	2,691	449	--	36
Sanford - H		1:19	2:33	3,484	548	1	--
Waupaca - R		11:53	1:54	6,660	1,110	--	--
TOTAL		1:03#	2:15#	32,063			
" previous week		1:09#	2:56#	30,306			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				579,170			

# Average time. \*Reports 3 times a week.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1, -2,197,354.

FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE.1c. POOR QUALITY OF TEXAS BERMUDA ONIONS.

Reports from Laredo and other Texas points, as well as from receiving markets, indicate that the quality of early shipments of Texas Bermuda onions is very poor. The crop was planted early and was unusually well advanced when the cold weather of February and freezing temperatures about the middle of March killed the outer leaves and severely injured all parts above the ground. The attempt of the plants to preserve themselves resulted in a very large percentage of bottle necks, splits, doubles, and seed stems in practically all sections. Hot weather early in April has caused the tops to turn yellow and further hindered the prospect of a crop of good quality. It is doubtful if many of the early shipments will have as much as 50% good onions in Commercial Pack stock. No word has been received from Mr. Conklin as to the prospects for shipping-point inspection.

2c. WATCH FOR CANADIAN CHECKS.

The exchange rate on Canadian checks is so great that all offices are requested to refuse acceptance of checks drawn on Canadian banks in payment of inspection fees, unless the check is made for a sufficiently large amount to include the rate of exchange and still have the full amount of the fee.

3c. DISCONTINUE USE OF ENVELOPES MARKED "CHIEF, BUREAU OF MARKETS."

All inspection offices are requested to discontinue the use of franked envelopes, marked "Chief, Bureau of Markets, " for sending letters of transmittal, certificate and fee-bill copies to Washington. Even though such envelopes are correctly marked for the project or division intended in Washington, it results in misdirection of a great deal of mail. If you do not have a supply of plain, franked envelopes sufficient for your needs, please order them from Washington. Envelopes containing the above-mentioned material should be addressed in accordance with instructions given in previous Division Letters and Memorandum No. 55.

W. C. HACKLEMAN,

Supervising Inspector.



OFFICE NOTES:

It is with sincere regret that announcement is made of the resignation of B. E. Yaden, Acting Supervising Inspector in Chicago. He expects to leave about May 1 to accept a position as assistant manager in the Chicago office of the Stewart Fruit Co. Mr. Yaden has been in the Department since February, 1914, and has been connected with this Bureau since January, 1915. Starting as a clerk-typist in the Market Surveys project, he has advanced to one of the highest positions in the Inspection Service. Without going into detail, Mr. Yaden's consecutive assignments were as follows: Until the end of 1916 he was located in Washington, assisting in several projects. In January, 1917, he was assigned to the Chicago office; in June, 1919, to Cleveland; in September of that year to Omaha; in February, 1920, to Cleveland; in April to Boston; in May to Cleveland again; in January, 1921, to Pittsburgh, and in October, 1921, to Washington; in January, 1923, to Chicago, as temporary Supervisor in Mr. Butner's absence. From 1917 until the fall of 1919, Mr. Yaden was on the Market News staff, after which he took the inspection training and was transferred to the Food Products Inspection staff. At Cleveland and Boston he handled Market News work in addition to his work as an Inspector. Of all persons now in the Fruit and Vegetable Division, Mr. Yaden stands third as to length of service, being preceded only by Mr. Sherman and by R. M. Peterson, of the Minneapolis office. He carries with him our best wishes for success in his new position.

Mr. Robb is expected to return to his desk this Friday, after his trip to Florida points. He stopped off a day at Orlando en route to Washington.

H. W. Samson returned from Florida today. Mr. Robb and he completed arrangements for joint State and Federal shipping-point inspection of tomatoes in the Lake Okeechobee district. C. W. Haack and H. C. Miller will supervise this new work, probably having their headquarters at Clewiston, a town on the southwest shore of the Lake. This special service may last for six weeks. It is expected that similar arrangements will be effected for shipping-point inspection of tomatoes and watermelons around Ocala, Fla. On his return trip to Washington, Mr. Samson stopped at Jacksonville to look after the preparation of joint certificate forms.

Robert Bier probably will leave on Friday for Charleston, S. C., where he will represent this Division in the opening of a shipping-point inspection service on cabbage, potatoes and other vegetables. Most of this work will be handled in the vicinity of Charleston, Meggett and Blackville. Mr. Bier may stop at Clemson College on his way South, to arrange for the printing of joint Federal and State Certificates.

Having attended a meeting of the National Basket and Fruit Package Manufacturers' Association at Louisville, Ky., on April 11 and 12, H. A. Spilman returned to Washington last Friday.

The excess wool-profits case which was to have been tried at Syracuse, N. Y., early this week was unexpectedly postponed and Mr. Evans was not obliged to make the trip announced in the last Division Letter. H. V. Denott is expected to return this Friday from his recent trip in the interest of the Domestic Wool Section.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

On Tuesday evening, Miss Hilda L. Mangers, typist in the Domestic Wool Section, was married to Mr. F. H. Bailey. After May 10, they will be at home at 1701 First Street, N.E.

H. C. Miller arrived from New York on Wednesday and is spending the remainder of this week in the Washington office. He will then proceed to Florida, where he will be associated with Mr. Hauck in shipping-point inspection work in the Lake Okeechobee section.

F. E. Bailey has been transferred from Chicago to assist with the inspection work in New York City for an indefinite period. Substitute his name for Mr. Miller's on the New York list of Inspectors, canceling it under Chicago.

Inspector R. N. Balster reported for duty in Philadelphia on Tuesday after enjoying two weeks' leave.

Assistant Supervising Inspector F. J. Baehler is recovered from his recent illness and is again on duty in the Chicago office.

On April 18, Miss Edna M. Duffy, who has been connected with the Pittsburgh office of the Inspection Service during the past four years, was married to Dr. E. L. Sweeney, of McKeesport, Pa. After a short wedding trip, they will make their home in McKeesport.

En route to San Diego, Walter Kingsbury expects to spend part of his leave in Chicago, part in San Francisco and part in Los Angeles.

At the last moment, it was found possible to continue the potato market reports at Idaho Falls until the end of April and that office has again been entered on the list of field stations. Local dealers objected seriously to the early closing of the station and raised sufficient funds to pay part of the expenses of the office for another two weeks. The annual ave of C. E. Schultz, therefore, has been deferred until May.

The Hastings office will open next week, with J. D. Evers in charge. He will close the Sanford station this Saturday. A. L. Thomas also will be at Hastings, testing the radio-receiving apparatus and endeavoring to get the market reports distributed from Arlington, Va., by radiograph.

J. D. Snow will leave Washington on Sunday for Chadbourn, N. C., to operate the field station on strawberries in that territory.

Since the closing of the Greeley, Colo., office, Mrs. Dick is still receiving a report of the potato situation by wire from Kansas City and distributing it locally.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetables Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 17

April 26, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. STANDARDIZATION AND CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING.

The following important article was recently written by H. W. Samson:-

Whether handled by cooperative marketing associations or private corporations agricultural products must be standardized. This is necessary in order that they may be marketed in conformity to the sound business principles which are recognized in the distribution of manufactured lines. There is scarcely one important marketing function which can not be performed more effectively when the commodity is graded to recognized and definite specifications. Rigid adherence to such standards is especially necessary, however, in the case of cooperative agencies and indeed is set down by practically all authorities as a basic prerequisite to success.

In the first place, the great object of cooperative marketing associations is to enable small producers to secure the advantages which accrue to large-scale operations, such as lower transportation costs, better facilities for assembling, and more intelligent distribution. A relatively large volume of produce is required to bear equitably the heavy overhead expenses of such organizations, and in drawing tonnage from a whole community there are, as a rule, wide variations in quality of the individual crops. The failure to recognize these variations has probably contributed more often than any other one cause to the failure of cooperative enterprises. It is true that some individual sacrifices for the good of the cause must be made, particularly in the early stages of organization, but it can not be expected that producers will continue to make great efforts to maintain high standards only to see their products lumped indiscriminately with those of inferior quality. Further, the practice of pooling the shipments of the various members is becoming practically universal among cooperative marketing agencies. There are sure to be poor sales as well as good sales and it seems only fair that the members should share alike the ups and downs of the market. Without a proper system of grading, the practice of pooling would impose a direct penalty on the best class of producers.

Standard grades constitute a common language between buyers and sellers, which is more than ever indispensable in these days when agricultural products from the four quarters of the globe compete in the world markets. They facilitate trading, serving as a basis for:

1. Future contracts.
2. Sales f.o.b. shipping points, in transit, and in other circumstances where the buyer can not exercise the privilege of inspection.
3. Government inspection, adjustments and claims.
4. The intelligent comparison of market prices.

(Continued over)



In addition to these benefits which obtain by reason of a complete understanding between buyers and sellers as to the precise character of the product, there are other advantages which result from the actual sorting of the commodity, in so far as this is practicable, into classes which meet the particular requirements of the trade. This operation permits wider distribution because:

1. The more perishable lots may be sold without waste in nearby markets or utilized for by-products purposes, leaving the remainder for shipment to more remote points.
2. Properly graded products may be held safely in storage, thus extending the marketing season.
3. Certain classes of buyers are attracted who do not handle products of indiscriminate quality.
4. Any sound advertising program must be backed up by uniform, dependable products.

A most important benefit of standardization is the gaining of good will. Confidence in the products of a cooperative organization and in its general business methods makes financing easier, increases demand, and reduces the margins of middlemen.

No discussion of the influence of standardization would be complete without reference to the reaction upon production and handling practices. The enforcement of standard grades at the point of production not only directs the attention of the grower to his mistakes, thus setting him about correcting them, but also insures him a proper remuneration for adopting more careful and effective methods.

Perhaps for the very reason that standard grades for farm products are so closely associated with success in cooperative marketing enterprises, such organizations have done the most to advance their use. Groups of growers working for their mutual benefit have often maintained voluntarily standards which would have been entirely impracticable had the trade attempted their imposition. The necessity for standards in the marketing of agricultural products can no longer be regarded as a debatable point. For the present the great problems relate to their effective application.

## 2a. WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS.

Fruit and vegetable material in the April 21 issue of Weather, Crops and Markets is as follows:

Page 369 - Summary of the week's markets and of March inspections. (It was intended to publish the monthly article on inspections in this issue but at the last moment it was crowded out.)

378 - April 1 cold storage report on apples, etc.

381 - Weekly review, with special paragraph on onions; f.o.b. prices, and weekly shipment table.

382 - Monthly table of carlot shipments for March, with comparisons.

383 - Heavy Lettuce Movement from Imperial Valley. (The last car seems to have been reported on April 20, with a total of 7,636 cars for the season, instead of 8,000 cars as predicted.)

Carload shipments of citrus fruits for February.

Arrivals and Prices of fruits and vegetables in leading markets.

A filler regarding Georgia cantaloupe acreage.

389 - List of new publications issued.



TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTSMarket News Service on Fruits and Vegetable

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 221 Ashton Bldg.	395	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples*	Oct. 17 Oct. 17	May 15 Nov. 11*
HAMMOND, LA. Post Office Bldg.	302	G. E. Prince	Berries	Mar. 28	May 10
LAREDO, TEXAS Chamber of Commerce	301	V. D. Callanan	Onions	Apr. 6	May 12
HASTINGS, FLA.	351	J. D. Evers	Potatoes	Apr. 24	May 25
CHADBOURN, N. C.	305	J. D. Snow	Berries	Apr. 24	May 15

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

JUDSONIA, ARK.	356	W. H. Mosier	Berries	May 7	May 29
RIPLEY, TENN.	306	G. E. Prince	Berries	May 10	May 31
MONETT, MO.	357	Unassigned	Berries	May 10	June 2
BOWLING GREEN, KY.	359	Unassigned	Berries	May 15	June 5
CHARLESTON, S. C.	358	J. D. Snow	Potatoes	May 16	June 5

The following station closed on date indicated:

IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	345	C. E. Schultz	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Closed Apr. 28
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\*Report discontinued.

W. H. Mosier on leave in Columbus, Ohio.  
C. E. Schultz on leave in California.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE
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1b. EARLY WESTERN POTATOES ON NEW YORK MARKET.

Mr. Stanton, of the New York office, has submitted the following interesting item concerning western potatoes in that city:

"Ordinarily the eastern potato States - New York, Maine, and Pennsylvania - keep New York City supplied with old potatoes during the fall and winter months, and only infrequently does this market call on the large producing sections of the middle or far west for shipments.

"This season has been a notable exception, because of inability to secure a sufficient quantity from the usual sources of supply. Last season only Idaho and Illinois, besides the usual States from which supplies are received, shipped old potatoes to New York, whereas this season carloads have arrived from Idaho, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Colorado, Kansas, Illinois, and Indiana.

"During the 1921-1922 season only 25 cars were reported from western points, practically all from Idaho. These were fancy baking potatoes individually wrapped in bushel boxes. This season to date more than 400 cars have been reported. Considering the prospects of future shipments, there is little doubt that the final figures will approximate or exceed 600 cars.

"The season of 1918-19 was the last time that any appreciable quantity of western potatoes appeared in the New York market, most of the stock then coming from Michigan."

2b. MONTHLY TABLE OF CARLOT SHIPMENTS.

(Reply)

All offices are requested to study carefully the monthly table of shipments, published on page 382 of Weather, Crops and Markets for April 21. It will be noticed that this enlarged table includes three columns of averages, - the five-year average for March; the five-season average to March 31, and the average grand total for past five seasons. A great deal of time was spent in working out these averages by products and by States, and the same amount of time will be required in future months if this form of table is continued. Please advise this office promptly of the value or advantage which you see, or which the trade in your section sees, in the comparisons with these three columns of averages. Is the monthly table in its new form of enough more value to warrant the extra time spent in preparing it? Is it suitable for use in field station summaries? Have you other suggestions for improving the table?

The following example will illustrate the comparisons available:-  
Washington apples: During March 2,094 cars were shipped from Washington. This is 109% more than were shipped in March, 1922, and 52% more than the five-year average for March. The season total to March 31 was 15% less than last season's total to the same date, but 12% more than the five-season average to March 31. Last year to the end of March 96% of the total seasonal movement had been accomplished, and last season's total was 45% above the average grand total for past five seasons.

E. W. STILLWELL.



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK APRIL 16-21, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted & Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Philadelphia- Misc.	1:13	1:33	20	12	4,960	1,055
New York - Misc. R	12:56	1:24	26	11	5,333	556
Washington- Misc.	1:19	2:05	46	10	3,175	--
Boston - Misc. R	2:35	5:00	145	14	6,720	300
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Chicago- Misc.	1:07	1:24	17	10	5,075	320
St. Louis - Misc. Q	1:11	1:35	24	12	3,025	275
Kansas City- Misc. Q	1:22	1:46	26	10	6,432	120
Minneapolis- Misc.	12:38	1:06	28	12	8,895	132
Cincinnati- Misc. QS	2:10	2:42	32	10	4,630	650
Pittsburgh- Misc.	1:06	1:40	34	10	3,303	49
Washington-(Nat'l)BFHMORS#6,P'muts,Snip,Inf.				101	44,407	1,971
TOTAL	1:22#	2:01#	39#	212	95,955	5,426
" Previous week	12:58#	1:44#	46#	210	32,089	4,874
<u>WESTERN OFFICE (April 9-14)</u>						
Los Angeles-Misc, LR#3	3:12	4:01	49	17	13,805	--
" " previous week	3:20	4:26	66	17	13,792	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				3,477	1,646,253	87,119

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK APRIL 16-21, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Grand Rapids - R	12:14	1:40	3,031	1,335	1	--
Hammond - S	2:24	4:30	2,120	353	7	--
*Idaho Falls - R	2:15	2:45	2,610	870	1	--
Laredo - M	2:40	4:00	2,755	459	2	--
Sanford - H	1:13	2:35	3,489	550	--	--
TOTAL	12:45#	3:06#	19,005	--	--	--
" previous	1:03#	2:15#	32,063	--	--	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			598,175			

# Average time. \* Reports 3 times a week

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1-2,331,547.

FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE1c. STRICT ECONOMY FOR REMAINDER OF FISCAL YEAR.

Our balance is very low and we can not exceed our appropriation. All offices are therefore urged to keep all expenses to a minimum for the remainder of the fiscal year. This applies particularly to purchase of supplies and travel expenses. It may be necessary to cut out some travel on out-of-town inspections. No long trips of this kind should be made except in cases of railroad inspections where passes are furnished by the railroads. Purchases of automobile tires, Inspector's tools, and similar equipment should be postponed if possible until after July 1. This office should be consulted before any unusual expenses are incurred.

2c. COLORADO INSPECTION OPTIONAL AFTER MAY 1.

We have been advised by E. F. McKune, who is acting as head of the Colorado inspection work in the absence of W. F. Allewelt, that inspections will be optional after May 1. All receiving-market Inspectors should look carefully for car cards after that date, because a good many shipments probably will go out of the State after that time which have not been inspected.

Recent legislation has made some radical changes in the marketing work in Colorado. Announcements regarding future work in this State will be made at a later date.

3c. INSPECTIONS FOR DR. BURGER OF FLORIDA EXPERIMENT STATION.

Dr. O. F. Burger, formerly fruit disease investigator of the Bureau of Plant Industry who assisted with some training classes in New York City in past years, has informed us that he may request some inspections on Hastings potatoes within the next few weeks.

He is particularly interested in the amount and nature of decay from that section and wishes particular attention paid to this feature. Inspections requested by him should be reported in the usual manner but no charge should be made for the certificate, which should be issued to Dr. O. F. Burger, Gainesville, Florida. Unless there is a request for a copy of this report from the shipper or receiver no other copies should be mailed, and it is not necessary that the name of the shipper or receiver be shown. If, however, any financially-interested party requests a copy of the report, the name and address of shipper and receiver should be shown. A free copy should be sent to the shipper and charge of \$1.000 made for other copies furnished.

4c. COPIES OF TWO BULLETINS SENT TO ALL INSPECTORS.

We have requested the Division of Publications to mail to each Inspector a copy of the new bulletin entitled "Potato Production in the South," which is a revision of an old bulletin on the same subject. A copy of bulletin entitled "Freezing Temperatures of Some Fruits, Vegetables and Cut Flowers" has also been requested for each Inspector. These are respectively Farmers' Bulletin 1205 and Department Bulletin 1133. Please advise us if they are not received.



5c. TEXAS BERMUDA ONION SITUATION.

There will be no cooperative shipping-point inspection service on Texas Bermuda onions, according to recent word from Mr. Conklin. The quality of this stock, including the late crop, is too poor to justify putting out a good grade, without which an inspection service would not be profitable.

A copy of the grades for Bermuda onions issued by the Texas Farm Bureau Onion Exchange is being sent to each inspection office. All onions shipped by the Exchange, which controls about 75% of the acreage in the upper district, will be inspected by the Exchange inspectors on the basis of these grades. Shipments from this section will be made from Asherton, Carrizo Springs, Crystal City, Big Wells, Brundage, Cotulla and Pearsall. This stock will be sold through the C. M. Kopp Company, San Antonio, Texas, and inspections for grade of onions from this territory shipped by this firm should be made on the basis of the Exchange grades.

Attention of all Inspectors is especially called to the definition of seed stem in these grades which is different from that given in the State or Federal grades. It apparently means that, unless the seed stem is large and conspicuous, it will not be counted against grade. Another point of difference between the Exchange Commercial grade and Combination No. 1 and No. 2 grade of the State is that 15% tolerance is allowed in the former and only 10% in the latter.

As soon as we can secure copies of the Texas grades in use this season, they will be forwarded to each office. Onions from Laredo and other sections will be sold on the basis of the State Commercial grade, according to Mr. Conklin. There seems to be no possibility of any stock meeting requirements of No. 1 grade and thus far only two grades, Commercial and culls, have been shipped. Mr. Conklin reports that most of the stock shipped thus far will not meet the requirements of Commercial grade because of the large percentage of seed stems.

6c. TOMATO INSPECTION WORK IN FLORIDA.

Inspection work on tomatoes in the Lake Okeechobee section was started April 24 under supervision of Mr. Hauck and Mr. Miller. Inspections will be made for various shippers operating in this territory and it will be necessary to look for car cards or marks, in order to ascertain whether a given lot has been inspected. Most of the inspected shipments will be loaded at Clewiston, some at Okeechobee. All stock is inspected on the basis of U.S. grades. I have requested Mr. Hauck to forward copies of certificates on some of the early shipments to offices at the receiving points. I desire particular attention paid to these cars in order to determine how these tomatoes carry, there being a rather general impression that the muck soil of the Lake section does not produce a firm tomato, especially when the season is wet. Please make inspections on any cars on which you receive certificates from Mr. Hauck. If the receiver does not ask for inspection his permission, of course, should be obtained. Make out the certificates to Mr. Hauck and mark them "No charge." Copies should be sent to Washington as usual.

F. G. ROBB,  
Specialist in Inspection.



OFFICE NOTES:

H. C. Miller, who spent last week in the Washington office, met C. W. Hauck at West Palm Beach, Florida, on Monday. County Agent James A. Dew, five local inspectors and a boatman also joined the party, and all proceeded to the Lake Okeechobee district, where shipping-point inspection of tomatoes will be conducted during the next month or more. Because of the necessity of traveling across a portion of the Lake very frequently to look after the work at various loading points, Messrs. Hauck, Miller, Dew and the boatman will make their home on the motor boat, the boatman also serving as cook. Word has not yet been received as to whether mail for our men should be sent to Moore Haven or Clewiston, the only two points reached by rail in that district.

On Monday the Interstate Grade Committee, representing the horticultural societies of Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania met at Martinsburg, W. Va., to discuss further the adoption of uniform apple grades. Mr. Samson represented this Department at the meeting and F. Earl Parsons, of the Virginia staff, also was present. The entire Committee is in favor of the Federal grades, with but slight modifications. The most important decision reached was that endorsing the use of numerical grades, U. S. No. 1 and U. S. No. 2, instead of "A" and "B".

Word from E. E. Conklin, Jr., who has been at Crystal City and other points in the onion sections of southern Texas, indicates that the quality of stock this season is so poor that it may not be possible to conduct shipping-point inspection in that territory. The Texas Farm Bureau Onion Growers Exchange controls a large part of the crop in the Upper Counties and that organization has its own force of inspectors. Mr. Conklin is cooperating as far as possible with the various agencies in the State but it is not expected that much practical work can be accomplished this season,-- at least not until the later crops which may prove of better quality.

The following clerical changes have recently occurred in Mr. Patton's section: Miss Martha Faith, who has been with the Transportation section since 1920, secured a transfer to the experimental mill of the Grain Division. Miss Katherine Gross has been given a temporary assignment to assist with the clerical work in Mr. Patton's section. Miss Petronelle Watkins has been transferred from the clerical pool and is now assisting regularly in the distribution of mail report blanks to freight agents. Mrs. H. L. Moeckel has been granted three months' leave without pay on account of poor health, and Mrs. S. E. W. Ewin has returned to duty after five weeks' absence on account of serious illness in her home.

Mr. Patton has gone on another trip in the interest of the telegraphic reports of shipments. He is visiting railroad officials in Youngstown, Ohio; Louisville, Ky., and Indianapolis, Ind., this week.

F. J. Baehler, of Chicago, spent Monday at Waupaca, Wis., in connection with shipping-point inspection of Wisconsin potatoes.



OFFICE NOTES: (Continued):

Work in the Domestic Wool Section has increased to such an extent that Mrs. Alma M. Theriault has been transferred from the Division of Property and Supplies to assist in the distribution of excess profits.

W. E. Harrison, of the Baltimore office, was a visitor to the Washington office on Wednesday. He is inaugurating a brief daily market report for publication in the Baltimore "Sun".

Robert Bier can be reached through County Agent George C. McDermid, Chamber of Commerce, Charleston, S.C. He will be working for some time in the vicinity of Charleston.

The early part of this week, T.C. Curry, of the Atlanta office, went to Chattanooga, Tenn., to attend a meeting of freight claim agents and shippers. Mr. Curry was present to answer any questions which might arise concerning the Food Products Inspection Service.

James R. Duncan has now gone to the Chicago office, after having substituted in Kansas City during the absence of O.N. Harsha, local Inspector. Mr. Harsha returned to duty on Monday from his period of leave.

Miss Anna L. Leonard, of Philadelphia, whose injury was reported in the Division Letter of April 12, was so badly hurt that she will be on leave without pay from May 4 to June 18, following her annual and sick leave.

H. H. Henderson, of the Norfolk, Va., inspection office, is spending this week on annual leave.

During the next few weeks F. S. Kinsey can be reached at Mr. Butner's office, 285 Wholesale Terminal Bldg., Los Angeles. He is devoting his attention to a shipping-point inspection Handbook.

The HOUSTON OFFICE probably will close for the summer on April 30. Inspector H. T. Longino will then successively relieve Inspectors in northern offices, who desire to take their leave at this time.

Because of the continued illness of H. A. Arenz, of the Milwaukee office, J. H. Hoover will remain in Milwaukee through next week to handle the inspection work.

Opening of the field station at Judsonia, Ark., has been deferred until May 7, because the first shipments of Arkansas strawberries are not expected before that time.

The Hastings, Fla., office has had some success in hearing the radiograph reports from Arlington, Va. Detailed reports have not been received but the carlot shipments were received correctly on April 24.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 13

May 3, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. POTATO SITUATION IN IDAHO.

On April 24, C. E. Schultz wrote the following to a broker in Oregon:

"Regarding the estimated amount of potatoes in Idaho available for shipment after this time, opinions of dealers vary considerably. Probably most of the dealers are estimating around 2500 cars. The actual amount which will be shipped will of course depend on the future markets entirely. Conditions here are much the same as you have described in Oregon. Districts over the State are widely scattered and, while many are cleaning up rapidly, others still have considerable quantities to move. It has been estimated by dealers that approximately 35% of the remaining stock, available for commercial shipments, is in the hands of dealers and the balance owned by the growers. It has also been estimated that about one-third of remaining stocks are Russets and the balance Rurals.

"Market conditions exert such a great influence on future shipments that it is very difficult to predict the probable movement with any degree of accuracy. For example, an immediate active demand for Rurals would permit a good-sized movement of this variety, but if this demand is delayed the stocks on hand will deteriorate rapidly and the movement would be much less than actually available at present. Poor markets this year offered no inducement early in the season for the growers to take particular care of their storages and consequently it is possible that Rurals especially will generally deteriorate more rapidly than would have been the case under normal conditions. Some cellars of Rurals are beginning to sprout, and warm weather during the next week or two would make it impossible to ship many of the Rurals now available. Russets generally are in better condition as regards sprouting but they sort out heavily for other causes and dealers do not estimate an over-supply of this variety.

"On March first the total holdings of potatoes in Idaho were estimated to have been 7,955,000 bushels or approximately 13,258 cars. Of this amount it was estimated that 2,227,000 bushels or 3,710 cars were unfit for food or seed; 1,750,000 bushels or 2,916 carloads were estimated as needed on the farm where grown for food or seed; 477,000 bushels or 795 cars were estimated as needed in the State. After deducting these various requirements it was estimated that 3,500,000 bushels or around 5,833 carloads were available for shipment after March first. Since that time a little over 4,000 cars have been shipped outside of the state which, on the basis of this estimate, would leave around 1,300 cars of merchantable stock available for shipment. However, it should be remembered that, if market conditions will justify, a considerable quantity of the stocks discounted for other purposes might be diverted to other methods of disposal, and it is possible that 2,500 cars or even more might be shipped from Idaho during the balance of the season, under favorable conditions."

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTSMarket News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 221 Ashton Bldg.	395	R.H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples*	Oct. 17 Oct. 17	May 15 Nov. 11*
HAMMOND, LA. Post Office Bldg.	302	G. E. Prince	Berries	Mar. 23	May 10
LAREDO, TEXAS Chamber of Commerce	301	V. D. Callanan	Onions	Apr. 6	May 3 **
HASTINGS, FLA. 4 Bryd Bldg.	351	J. D. Evers	Potatoes	Apr. 24	May 25
CHADBOURN, N. C. Telephone Exch. Bldg.	305	J. D. Snow	Berries	Apr. 24	May 15

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

JUDSONIA, ARK.	356	W. H. Mosier	Berries	May 7	May 29
RIPLEY, TENN.	306	G. E. Prince	Berries	May 10	May 31
MONETT, MO.	357	Unassigned	Berries	May 10	June 2
BOWLING GREEN, KY.	359	H. J. Clay	Berries	May 15	June 5
CHARLESTON, S. C.	358	J. D. Snow	Potatoes	May 16	June 5

\* Report discontinued.

\*\*Mr. Callanan will move to Crystal City by May 10 and issue reports until May 19  
C. E. Schultz on leave at Los Angeles.



MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. WATERMELONS, GRAPES, ORANGES, LEMONS AND GRAPEFRUIT ADDED TO UNLOADS.

Commencing with the arrival of the first carload of watermelons, that product should be added to the commodities for which you are now compiling unload statistics. Beginning June 1, add to this list unloads of grapes, oranges, lemons and grapefruit. With oranges should be included tangerines, satsumas and King oranges, but kumquats should be omitted. Unloads on both eastern and western-type grapes are desired. Please make such arrangements with the transportation companies as may be necessary to get complete unload information on all these commodities. It might be well also to arrange to get arrivals of citrus fruits.

After June 1, the list for which unload statistics are desired will include the following 15 products:

Apples	<u>Grapes</u>	Strawberries
Cabbage	<u>Lemons</u>	Sweet potatoes
Cantaloupes	<u>Onions</u>	Tomatoes
Celery	<u>Oranges</u>	<u>Watermelons</u>
<u>Grapefruit</u>	<u>Peaches</u>	White potatoes

2b. EASTERN SHORE OF VIRGINIA POTATO PLANTINGS.

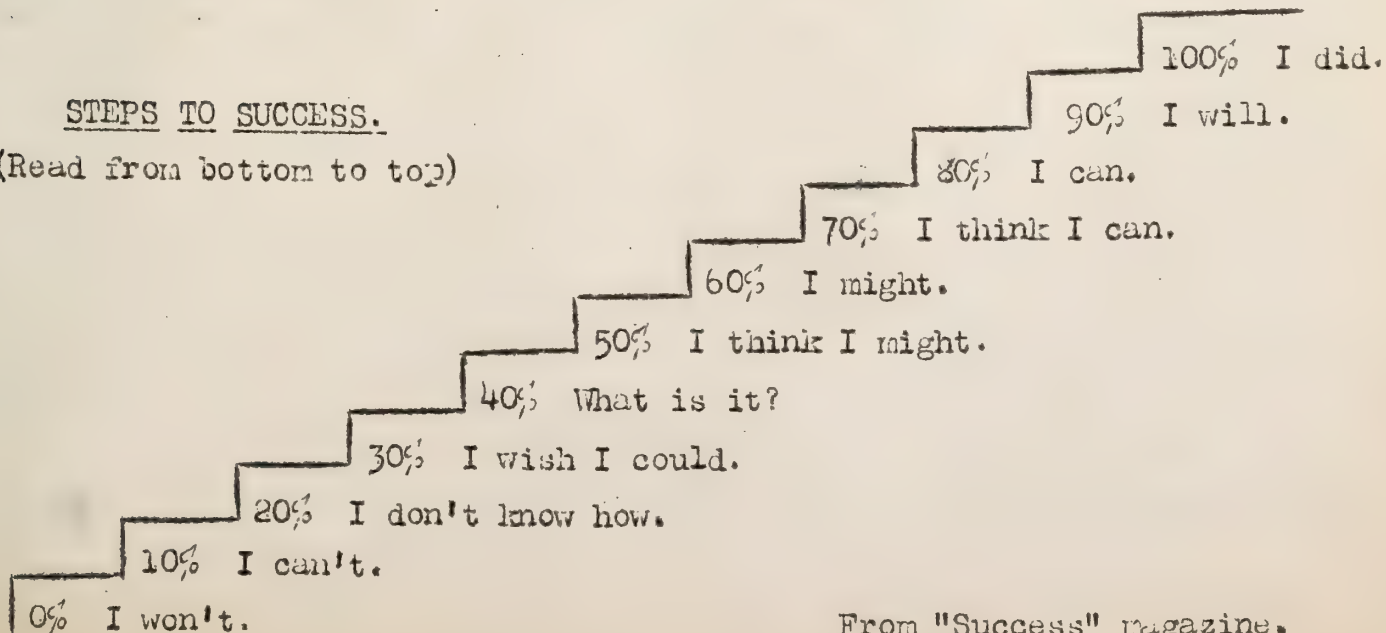
The Division of Crop and Live Stock Estimates recently issued the following statement, indicative of the Eastern Shore potato situation:

"The Eastern Shore of Virginia has a slightly increased potato acreage, compared with last year, and expects about the same production. In Northampton County, the acreage is like last year's. From Machipongo south, the planting is from Maine seed (as usual) and shows an unusually good stand with favorable growing conditions. The crop is at least ten days late and there will be little movement before June 15."

E. W. STILLWELL,  
Specialist in Market News.

STEPS TO SUCCESS.

(Read from bottom to top)



From "Success" magazine.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK APRIL 23-28, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted & Delivered
<b>EASTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Philadelphia-Misc.	1:02	1:22	20	12	4,976	380
New York - Misc. R	1:08	1:40	32	11	5,360	559
Washington- Misc.	1:13	2:09	56	10	3,150	--
Boston - Misc. R	1:50	4:03	133	14	7,275	300
<b>WESTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Chicago - Misc.	1:13	1:29	16	10	5,065	320
St. Louis- Misc. Q	12:50	1:12	22	14	3,050	225
Cincinnati- Misc. QS	2:03	2:30	27	10	4,630	650
Minneapolis-Misc.	1:23	1:51	28	12	8,935	132
Pittsburgh- Misc.	1:09	1:44	35	10	3,315	51
*Kansas City-Misc. Q, Honey-12:35	1:22		47	10	4,735	125
Washington-(Nat'l) BEMQRS P's, Ship. Infm.				84	35,736	1,900
TOTAL	1:14#	1:56#	42#	197	86,227	4,642
" previous week	1:22#	2:01#	39#	212	95,955	5,428

## WESTERN OFFICE (April 16-21)

Los Angeles-Misc. LR#3	3:15	4:19	64	17	13,736	--
" " previous week	3:12	4:01	49	17	13,805	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				3,691	1,746,218	91,761

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK APRIL 23-28, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left office			In- crease	De- crease
Chadbourn - S		2:34	4:00	2,060	378	--	--
Grand Rapids- R		11:58	1:38	8,041	1,335	--	--
Hammond- S		2:19	3:15	2,304	364	9	--
Hastings- R		2:41	4:33	3,592	614	--	--
Idaho Falls- R		2:08	2:36	2,610	870	--	--
Laredo- M		4:00	5:10	3,210	480	5	--
TOTAL		2:17#	3:32#	21,817	--	--	--
" previous week		12:45#	3:06#	19,005	--	--	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				619,992			

# Average time. \* Honey reports included last week. ° Reports 3 times a week.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 2,457,971.



FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE.1c. GRADES FOR TEXAS BERMUDA ONIONS.

The onion grades recommended by the Texas State Department of Agriculture are given in this Division Letter for the guidance of Inspectors in handling stock from Laredo and other southern stations. Most Texas stock, except that from the districts mentioned in last Division Letter, will be packed on the basis of the State grades. Instructions in paragraphs 756 and 757 of the Inspector's Handbook are not applicable to Texas onions.

The Texas Farm Bureau Exchange, which controls most of the crop in the northern district, has promulgated a new grade known as "Merchantable Pack" under which they expect to market most of their shipments. This grade is also listed below and should be used in inspection of stock shipped by the Exchange, which was sold on this basis. It should be noted that this differs from Commercial Grade in that nothing is said about maturity, shape, brightness, cleanliness, or maximum size. The tolerance is 10% instead of 15% as in the Commercial Grade.

Merchantable Pack:

Shall consist of onions of one variety which are sound, free from doubles, splits, bottle necks, moisture, sun-burn or cuts. The diameter shall be not less than 2 inches. In order to allow for variations incident to commercial grading and handling, 10% by weight of any lot need not meet the foregoing requirements. In case of yellow onions 15% by weight of any lot may be noticeably pink.

TEXAS BERMUDA ONION GRADES.

(Recommended by the State Dept. of Agriculture)

Grade No. 1.

Grade No. 1 shall consist of Bermuda onions which are mature, sound, well-shaped, of one variety, free from doubles, splits bottlenecks and seed stems, and practically free from damage caused by dirt or other foreign matter, moisture, sunburn, cuts, diseases, insects, or mechanical or other means.

The diameter shall be two(2) inches and the maximum diameter three and one-half ( $3\frac{1}{2}$ ) inches.

In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling, 10 per cent, by weight, of any lot may exceed the maximum diameter requirements, and in addition, 10 per cent, by weight, need not meet the remaining requirements of this grade, but not more than 5 per cent, by weight, shall be allowed for any one defect.

In the case of yellow onions, not more than 10 per cent, by weight, of any lot may be noticeably pink.

(Continued over)

Grade No. 1 Large.

Grade No. 1 Large, shall consist of Bermuda onions which meet the requirements of Grade No. 1, except that more than 10 per cent, by weight, of any lot shall exceed  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter.

Grade No. 2.

Grade No. 2 shall consist of onions which are sound, of one variety, free from doubles, splits, bottlenecks and seed stems, and practically free from damage caused by dirt or other foreign matter, moisture, sunburn, cuts, diseases, insects, or mechanical or other means. The minimum diameter shall be two (2) inches.

In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling, 10 per cent, by weight, of any lot need not meet the requirements of this grade.

Grade Combination No. 1 and No. 2.

Grade Combination No. 1 and No. 2 shall consist of any lot of Bermuda onions of which, at least 50 per cent, by weight, shall meet the requirements of Grade No. 1 and the remainder of which shall meet the requirements of Grade No. 2.

In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling, 10 per cent, by weight, of any lot need not meet the requirements of Grade No. 2, but this tolerance shall not reduce the percentage of Grade No. 1 below 50 per cent, by weight. In case of yellow onions, not more than 10 per cent, by weight, of any lot may be noticeably pink.

Boiler Grade..

Boiler Grade shall consist of onions which are sound, of one variety, free from doubles, splits, bottlenecks and seed stems and practically free from damage caused by dirt or other foreign matter, moisture, sunburn, cuts, diseases, insects, or mechanical or other means. The diameter shall not be less than one (1) inch nor more than two (2) inches.

In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling, 10 per cent, by weight, of any lot need not meet the requirements of this grade, but not more than 5 per cent, by weight shall be allowed for any one defect.

Grade No. 3.

Grade No. 3 shall consist of sound onions which do not meet the requirements of any of the foregoing grades.

2c. MEMORANDUM NO. 56.

Copy of Memorandum No. 56, covering Freezing and Chilling Injury of Tomatoes, is being mailed to all Inspectors.



3c. SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION ON EASTERN TENNESSEE STRAWBERRIES.

Shipping-point inspection on basis of U. S. grades for strawberries will be instituted in Tennessee for the first time this season. Beginning May 5 inspection will be carried on at Spring City by W. C. Hackleman and on May 8 at Cleveland by E. E. Conklin, Jr. This will be a straight Federal shipping-point service and any inquiries regarding inspection at these points should be addressed to the Washington office or to the inspection points. All cars will be marked with crayon.

4c. GET REPORT ON COACHELLA ONION INSPECTIONS FROM CHICAGO OFFICE.

Mr. Butner expects to send a daily report to Chicago showing the car number and grade of each car of Coachella Valley onions inspected at shipping point. This will enable Inspectors in the receiving markets to secure immediate information from the Chicago office as to whether or not a given car has been inspected at shipping point. They expect to mark all inspected cars at shipping point, but it will be best to wire the Chicago office before reinspecting a car for grade, as many cars will be shipped from there without inspection.

If any cars that are inspected or reinspected in receiving markets for grade show a soft and badly-shrivelled or wrinkled condition usually associated with immaturity or excessive loss of moisture, such stock should be counted against grade. It is not necessary to state the cause of this condition on the certificate, since it seems that it may be due to other causes than maturity. Merely state that these onions are badly shriveled, wrinkled, or soft, as the case may be.

Mr. Butner would like to know as quickly as possible about any cars on which shipping-point inspection is reversed.

F. G. Robb,  
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Hackleman will leave Washington tonight for eastern Tennessee. He expects to meet E. E. Conklin, Jr., at Spring City on Monday and they both will handle inspection of strawberries at shipping points during the next three weeks. Mr. Hackleman will be stationed at Spring City, Tenn., and Mr. Conklin at Cleveland, Tenn. En route to Tennessee from Texas, Mr. Conklin visited the field station at Hammond, La.

H. T. Longino is on leave at Sulphur Springs, Texas, until May 9. On that date he will report for duty in the Chicago office of the Inspection Service. The Houston office is now closed for the summer.

During the onion-shipping season in the Coachella Valley of California, R. C. Butner is located at Coachella, where he is supervising shipping-point inspection of the crop. F. S. Kinsey, who is now in the Los Angeles office, may visit Mr. Butner occasionally to assist in the inspection work.

In his f.o.b. report this morning, V. D. Callanan, of the Laredo office, advised that only about 150 cars of onions remain to be shipped from that district. Movement from the upper counties will be heavier and the quality in the northern sections is expected to be somewhat better than that which has been shipped from Texas to date.

Mrs. Mills has returned to the Washington office after absence of a month or more on account of illness. Mrs. F. H. Bailey (formerly Hilda L. Mangers) also has returned after her wedding trip.

B. C. Boree is obliged to be absent from his desk on account of illness in his home.

Inspector J. H. Hoover has returned to Chicago after having substituted for H. A. Arenz in Milwaukee during the last three weeks.

Since the departure of B. E. Yaden, to accept a position with a Chicago firm, F. J. Baehler is Acting Supervising Inspector, temporarily in charge of the Chicago office. Last Saturday, Mr. Baehler went to Kansas City to assist in the reinspection of some potato shipments.

F. M. Patton will leave this evening for a short trip to New York, Boston, New Haven, Springfield and Hartford, visiting railroad officials in those cities.

This week's Literary Digest, dated May 5, contains a very interesting, illustrated article on the potato situation in leading producing sections. It treats particularly of the cooperative movements among growers.



OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

On the Market Station Address List, the residence address of C. L. Brown, in charge of the Boston office, should be inserted as: 1678 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge 38, Mass.; phone University 4163-J.

Until recently, Miss Mayme C. Parker has been Chairman of the Bureau Committee, Department of Agriculture Welfare Association. She has now been succeeded by Mr. Morrison, of the Grain Division. Miss Parker reports that, during the year 1922-23, contributions to the work of the Association in the amount of \$61 were received from 51 employees of the Fruit and Vegetable Division. In the entire Bureau, 242 persons pledged and paid \$355.75.

On the list of field stations of the Market News Service, note that the Laredo office will close on May 8, and Mr. Callanan will move to Crystal City, Texas, from which point he will continue onion reports until May 19.

Last week's Weather, Crops and Markets contains the following material on fruits and vegetables, which will be of interest to our readers:

Page 393 - Summary of the week's markets.

394 - Farmers' Intentions to Plant Irish and Sweet Potatoes.  
Negro Farmers Moving North.

395 - Report of Committee on Agricultural Outlook.

401 - List of New Publications Issued.

403 - Weekly review, with special paragraph on potatoes; tables of  
f.o.b. prices and of shipments.

404 - Arrivals and jobbing prices of fruits and vegetables.  
Fruit and Vegetable Inspections during March. (Inspectors will  
be interested in the comparative figures in these tables.)

405 - Texas Onion Situation, - by Mr. Callanan.  
Southern California Onion Situation, - by Mr. Harris.  
Additional Market News Field Stations.

411 - New Apple Export Case.

414 - Effect of weather on certain crops.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 19

May 10, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. ANNUAL LEAVE DURING SUMMER.

In past years we have had considerable difficulty in adjusting questions of leave on account of a misunderstanding on the part of field employees relative to the Saturday half-holidays, which begin June 16. In calculating periods of annual leave, Saturdays from June 16 to September 15 inclusive should be counted as 4 hours' leave, instead of one-half day or  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours.

2a. SUPPLIES FOR FIELD USE.

Except in emergencies, please order all supplies from Washington, exclusive of course of such articles as automobile and machine repair parts, gasoline and oil, mucilage, etc. This is our rule which has been in effect during the past, but local purchases are constantly being made which could have been furnished from Washington at a considerable saving in cost. Washington supplies, purchased through special contracts awarded upon competitive bids, usually cost much less, including freight, than when purchased locally. A little foresight will remedy this matter and save considerable money.

OFFICE NOTES:

Frank H. Scruggs, of Tennessee, has been appointed as a Junior Marketing Specialist. He familiarized himself with the work in the Washington office of the Market News Service a few days, and on Saturday proceeded to Philadelphia, which will be his headquarters. Mr. Scruggs was graduated from Maryville College, Maryville, Tenn., in 1918, with degree of B. A. in Political Science and Economics. In 1919 he attended the Universite de Grenoble, in southeastern France, receiving a certificate for his studies in the French language and economic regional geography of France. More recently, Mr. Scruggs has been a student in the Foreign Service School, Georgetown University, Washington. He expects to receive a master's degree from that School in June. In 1918 and 1919, he was in military service, and after September of the latter year was employed in the Bureau of War Risk Insurance. For about a year and a-half he was warehouse superintendent for the War Dept. at the Port of Antwerp, Belgium, and since October, 1921, has held a position in the Dept. of Commerce, Washington. Mr. Scruggs' name should be inserted under Philadelphia on the Market Station Address list. It is expected that he will handle work similar to that done by Joseph D. Evers, before his assignment to the field service.

After a year's service as Navy inspector at San Diego, Calif., A. S. Mason has announced his intention to resign within the next two weeks. He has been offered a position as buyer and field manager with the San Diego Fruit and Produce Company, which position he will accept after he has trained Walter Kingsbury as the new Navy inspector at San Diego. Mr. Mason has rendered excellent service for the Navy in southern California and also has been securing a local market report for San Diego papers. His resignation is regretted.



OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

This week's issue of the Bureau paper entitled "State and Federal Marketing Activities" carries an extensive announcement of the reorganization of marketing work in Colorado. A change of personnel which will be of special interest to members of the Fruit and Vegetable Division is the resignation of W. F. Allewelt, as Director of the Colorado Division of Marketing, to accept a position in California as head of the State Bureau of Standardization. In his new office, Mr. Allewelt will have a large share in the success of shipping-point inspection in California. He will hold the position recently vacated by F. W. Read and later by L. J. Weishaar.

Rogers Koops, of Buffalo, N. Y., has been given a cooperative appointment as Junior Marketing Specialist, and will report for duty in the New York office of the Market News Service about May 15. His name should be added to the New York staff. Mr. Koops was graduated from the Winona Agricultural College, Indiana, in 1917, and completed a traffic course by correspondence after his graduation. From 1917 to 1919, he served as a Second Lieutenant in the Army. Since that time he has held the following positions: inspector of perishable freight for the New York Central Lines at Toledo, Ohio; representative of brokers and carlot produce distributors in Washington, D. C.; messenger for Fruit Dispatch Company and United Fruit Company; shipper of Florida products to northern brokers; again inspector of perishable products for New York Central Railroad; student in experimental room of the Dunlap Tire and Rubber Company. For a short period, Mr. Koops was employed at the Department's experimental farm, Arlington, Va. In his position with this Bureau, he will secure market reports for the State of New Jersey in addition to assisting with the work in our New York office. In that respect he succeeds R. L. Sutton, formerly of the New York staff.

The Bureau minstrel show and dance, held last night in the Center Market Auditorium, was a big success. About 375 tickets were sold, 80 being within the Fruit and Vegetable Division. Mr. Stillwell was chairman of the Entertainment Committee, which put on the enjoyable minstrel show. Miss Mayne Parker served as chairman of the Decorations Committee, which made the large hall beautiful with American flags and Japanese lanterns. Employees of this Division on the minstrel program were: Messrs. Stillwell and Lyle in songs and fun; Miss Robinson, singing and dancing; Mr. Miller in songs; and Mr. Berkely, saxophone solos. Other employees of the Division served on the various committees.

Asparagus production is becoming of increasing importance in southeast Pennsylvania, near Philadelphia. N. U. Blanpied, of the Harrisburg office, has gone to Penns Manor, in Bucks County, to assist in grading and packing operations.

Although announced in the last Division Letter, it was found not necessary to move the Texas onion field station from Laredo to Crystal City, and V. D. Callanan will continue to issue market reports at Laredo until about May 25.



OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

The Charleston, S.C., field station on potatoes, which will be opened about the middle of the month, will be operated on a different basis than usual. No mimeographed reports will be issued, but daily wires giving shipments, destinations, and a few markets will be furnished Mr. Snow, who in turn will secure an f.o.b. report from the Charleston district. Information sent Mr. Snow will be prepared by him in the form of newspaper releases and radio reports, to be distributed in that manner rather than by mail in mimeographed form.

Robert Bier reports that no shipping-point inspection of cabbage will be attempted in the Charleston section, because the season is nearly completed. But a large number of cars of potatoes probably will be inspected before being shipped, once the potato season opens.

On the list of temporary field stations, it will be observed that W.J. Bertush, assistant in the Chicago office, was sent to Ripley, Tenn., instead of Mr. Prince. Because of the continued heavy movement of Louisiana berries, the Hammond office will remain in operation until May 15, after which Mr. Prince will issue strawberry reports at Monett, Mo.

Another trip for the purpose of visiting railroad superintendents who render daily reports of shipments is being made by F. M. Patton to Rocky Mount and Fayetteville, N.C.; Charleston, S.C.; Atlanta and Savannah, Ga.; and Jacksonville and St. Augustine, Fla. He will be away until about May 16.

We sympathize with B. C. Boree in the serious illness of one of his young daughters. During his continued absence from the Washington office, O.D. Miller is temporarily handling some of Mr. Boree's work.

Since the completion of most of the shipping-point inspection of potatoes and other products in Colorado, J. E. Porter, cooperative inspector at Greeley, and W. W. Wixom, at Grand Junction, have been discontinued from the Federal roll.

The Division of Crop and Live Stock Estimates issued on May 3 a release showing the acreage, yield, and estimated production of early Irish potatoes and of strawberries. The production figures are summarized below:

	Potatoes:	Strawberries:	
	10 Early States.	5 Early States.	11 Intermediate.
	(bushels)	(quarts)	(quarts)
1921 .....	22,349,900	23,405,000	111,097,400
1922 .....	25,489,200	32,993,200	163,502,100
1923 .....	19,923,300	41,472,000	159,407,200

This issue of the D.L. contains no special section for the Market News Service.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTSMarket News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 221 Ashton Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples*	Oct. 17 Oct. 17	May 15 Nov. 11*
HAMMOND, LA. Post Office Bldg.	802	G. E. Prince	Berries	Mar. 28	May 15
LAREDO, TEXAS Chamber of Commerce	801	V. D. Callanan	Onions	Apr. 6	May 25
HASTINGS, FLA. 4 Eyrd Bldg.	851	J. D. Evers	Potatoes	Apr. 24	May 15
CHADBOURN, N. C. Telephone Exch. Bldg.	805	J. D. Snow	Berries	Apr. 24	May 15
JUDSONIA, ARK.	856	W. H. Mosier	Berries	May 8	May 29
RIPLEY, TENN.	806	W. J. Bertush	Berries	May 9	May 31

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

CHARLESTON, S. C.	858	J. D. Snow	Potatoes	May 16	June 5
MONETT, MO.	857	G. E. Prince	Berries	May 17	June 5
BOWLING GREEN, KY.	859	H. J. Clay	Berries	May 21	June 5
BRAWLEY, CALIF.	808	C. E. Schultz V. D. Callanan	Cants.	May 21	July 12
OCALA, FLA.	832	J. D. Evers	W-melons	May 28	June 16
FORT VALLEY, GA.	833	Unassigned	Peaches	June 1	July 10
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS.	809	R. H. Shoemaker	Tomatoes	June 1	June 23
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS	811	W. H. Mosier	Tomatoes	June 1	June 30

\* Report discontinued.

C. E. Schultz on leave at Los Angeles.  
R. H. Shoemaker on leave at Detroit, May 15-30.



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK APRIL 30-MAY 5, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered
<b>EASTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Philadelphia-Misc.	1:31	1:51	20	11	5,000	380
New York - Misc. R	1:33	2:01	28	11	5,410	500
Washington - Misc.	1:11	2:21	70	10	3,780	--
Boston - Misc. R	1:30	4:10	160	16	7,275	300
<b>WESTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Chicago - Misc.	1:10	1:27	17	10	5,245	320
Kansas City- Misc. Q Honey	12:25	12:44	19	10	11,457	120
St. Louis - Misc. Q	12:32	12:55	23	12	3,050	225
Minneapolis- Misc.	12:02	12:27	25	12	8,960	117
Cincinnati- Misc. QS	1:47	2:16	29	10	4,630	650
Pittsburgh - Misc.	12:29	1:08	39	10	3,348	51
Washington-(Nat'l) BFMORS P'nuts, Honey, Ship. Infrm.	82				39,606	1,110
TOTAL	1:01#	1:44#	43#	194	97,761	3,833
" previous week	1:14#	1:56#	42#	197	86,227	4,642
<b>WESTERN OFFICE (APR. 23-28)</b>						
Los Angeles-Misc. IB	3:26	4:17	51	17	14,133	--
" " previous week	3:15	4:19	39	17	13,738	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				3,902	1,858,112	95,594

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK APRIL 30-MAY 5, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Chadbourn- S	2:00	3:24	2,582	404	4	--
Grand Rapids-R	11:35	1:30	8,041	1,335	--	--
Hammond- S	1:58	3:14	1,935	392	2	--
Hastings - R	2:10	2:25	3,297	483	--	27
Lareado - M	2:57	4:06	3,278	500	4	--
TOTAL	1:44#	2:54#	19,183	--	--	--
" previous week	2:17#	3:32#	21,817	--	--	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			639,175			

# Average time.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 -2,592,881.

FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE
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1c. STRAWBERRY INSPECTIONS AT SPRING CITY, TENN.

The following article has been received from Mr. Hackleman, regarding the inspection of strawberries at Spring City.

Mr. Conklin will conduct similar work at Cleveland, Tenn., where inspection may be requested on about 100 cars. These berries will begin to move in quantities about the 14th and the movement should last three weeks. Mr. Hackleman's letter follows:

"All carloads shipped by the Rhea County Better Berry Growers Assn. from Spring City will be inspected on the basis of U. S. Grades. They may also ship from Evensville & Pennine but such shipments are not likely to be inspected. I intend to mark all cars: 'S-C-T,' and with the date. Mr. Conklin probably will mark his cars: 'C-T.' The Association will label their crates, which will easily identify them, but there will be several cars sent from this point by other shippers that will not be inspected.

"Early shipments will consist largely of Klondikes, with possibly a few Thompsons or other varieties. After about a week, most of the stock will be Aronas.

"Since all the grading will be done on the farm and the early shipments will be made up from a large number of growers, there will be considerable variation in quality and condition throughout the load. I don't expect any of the early cars to be entirely up to grade and will report them by growers' names, or ends of the cars, if possible.

"I will be glad to receive reports on any shipments that the Inspectors in markets have an opportunity to see, whether or not cars are inspected at receiving point."

2c. ARTICLES IN WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS.

In Weather, Crops and Markets for May 5 is the following material on fruits and vegetables:

- Page 417 - Summary of the week's markets, and a brief reference to Louisiana strawberries and Colorado potatoes.
- 423 - Weekly review, with special paragraph on apples; tables of f.o.b. prices and week's shipments.
- 424 - Arrivals and prices of leading products in city markets.
  - Louisiana Strawberry Movement Reaches Peak, -by Mr. Prince.
  - Short paragraphs on N.C. peas and potatoes, and Virginia cabbage.
- 425 - Potato Situation in Northern Colorado, - by Mrs. Dick.
  - Brown Heart in Australian Apples.
  - List of new publications.
- 426 - Acreage, yield, production, price paid by canners, and total value of certain truck crops produced for manufacture, 1920-1922, including Cucumbers for pickles, Snap Beans, Green Peas, Tomatoes.
- 427 - Similar tables for Sweet Corn, and Cabbage for kraut.
  - Commercial acreage, yield, production, price and farm value of certain truck crops, 1920-1922, including Asparagus and Celery.
- 428 - Similar tables for Cucumbers, Green Peas, Spinach, Cauliflower.
- 438 - Effect of weather on certain crops.

NOTE: This index is intended for all men in F. & V. Division, -not only the Inspectors. It was inserted on this page to fill the space.



## 3c. INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF APRIL, 1923.

MARKETS	Total Fruits C/L & L.C.L.	Total Veger- tables C/L & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total same Month 1922	Inspec- tions for Car- riers	Declin- ed for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certifi- cate Copy Fees
Atlanta	10	36	46	16	4	3	\$ 176	\$ 5.00	\$ 9
Baltimore	16	30	46	91	-	-	160	15.00	-
Boston	13	98	116	100	36	19	444	12.50	3
Buffalo	9	54	63	51	8	1	192	37.50	7
Chicago	39	182	271	193	6	6	1012	32.50	29
Cincinnati	16	43	59	35	-	1	236	-	-
Cleveland	36	126	162	131	41	1	652	17.50	33
Columbus	8	18	26	30	7	-	104	-	-
Denver	3	23	26	0	1	6	96	5.00	-
Detroit	81	48	129	119	64	1	484	20.00	31
Erie	2	0	2	-	-	-	8	-	1
Harrisburg	0	1	1	6	1	-	4	-	1
Houston	10	20	30	-	2	-	104	7.50	4
Indianapolis	17	21	38	26	5	2	148	2.50	3
Kansas City	36	75	111	80	4	1	392	15.00	3
Los Angeles	0	13	13	1	0	0	40	-	1
Memphis	8	13	21	21	13	-	80	2.50	2
Milwaukee	36	17	53	27	21	-	208	2.50	2
Minneapolis	10	52	62	58	-	-	216	5.00	2
New Orleans	9	54	63	34	40	-	236	10.00	29
New York	166	352	518	462	116	166	2000	42.50	14
Norfolk	2	10	12	12	3	-	48	-	1
Omaha	34	9	43	38	4	-	168	2.50	6
Philadelphia	133	77	215	548	147	5	804	35.00	32
Pittsburgh	59	130	189	326	64	8	744	5.00	14
San Francisco	0	3	3	0	-	-	12	-	-
St. Louis	19	144	163	116	51	3	576	40.00	57
Washington	3	25	28	25	1	-	108	2.50	4
Wilkes-Barre	5	12	17	19	1	2	68	-	5
Total	840	1686	2526	2565	640	225	\$9520	\$317.50	\$293

## RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections ....	840	Inspections for Carriers	640
TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections	1686	Declined for lack of time	225
Grand Total C/L and L.C.L. Inspections	2526	Total Fees Assessed	\$10145.50*
Decrease from April, 1922 .....	2%		

\* The total fees assessed include \$15.00 for inspection of two mixed cars.

During April last year, 1337 inspections were made for carriers. Since only 640 inspections were made at the request of carriers during the past month, there was an actual increase of 658 in commercial inspections.

4c

INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING APRIL, 1923

Symbols. N-Navy M-Marine Corps

ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS

	Total Number of Inspections	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED	Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED	Total Quantity INSPECTED	Cuts made to comply with specifications	Items billed short- weight
STATIONS	N M	N M	N M	N M	N M	N M
POSTON	227 10	162469 4660	7900 0	130369 4660	60 0	236 0
NEW YORK	251 47	236605 225872	6798 1944	243403 227816	1163 64	- 0
NORFOLK	0 -	0 -	0 -	0 -	0 -	0 -
PHILADELPHIA	171 30	128790 16630	14450 2346	143240 18976	2137 376	0 0
SAN DIEGO	** 75	406138 29470	16982 417	423120 29887	0 0	5183 0
SAN FRANCISCO	74 -	163717 -	22676 -	186333 -	100 -	0 -
SAN PEDRO	** -	686532 -	16305 -	702837 -	0 -	0 -
TOTALS	703 162	1804251 276632	55111 4707	1089362 281339	3460 440	5419 0

\*\* No record of number of inspections.

In addition to the above the New York office made the following inspections:

For the U.S. Health Hospitals 62,171 lbs. passed; 53 inspections.

For the U.S. Veterans Hospital from April 12 to 30, 28,686 lbs. passed; 5 inspections.

For the U.S. Shipping Board, 13,154 lbs. passed; 4 inspections.

No supply ships loaded at Norfolk this month.

At San Pedro 18,758 lbs. of butter and 13,852 lbs. of bread also were inspected.

Inspections made for the Laid-Up Fleet of the U. S. Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation were as follows:

	Total	Cuts	Rejected
New York: . . . . .	25,690 lbs.		
Norfolk: 9,335 lbs. fruits, 41,071 lbs. vogs. . . . .	50,406 lbs.	100 lbs.	234 lbs.

The New York office also inspected for the United States Lines 206,625 lbs. vegetables and 106,951 lbs. fruits. Of the total of 315,574 lbs. inspected, 6140 lbs. were rejected. In addition 138,490 lbs. fruits and vegetables were inspected for the Munson Line. Of this amount 4,250 lbs. were rejected on account grade, condition,



5c. USE CARE IN DESCRIBING DISCOLORATION OF OLD POTATOES.

My attention has been called to dark discoloration of the flesh sometimes found in old potatoes which do not show any sign of freezing injury. This is not uncommon in old potatoes at this time of year and is not necessarily an indication of freezing injury. Great care should be exercised in cases of this kind. Unless there are other positive indications of freezing injury, this discoloration should not be so described on the certificate.

At this time of year old potatoes are apt to show the accumulated effects of unfavorable conditions, such as careless handling, poor ventilation, and improper storage, and should not be judged as critically as earlier in the season. Anyone who buys old potatoes at this time must expect a certain amount of deterioration natural to the product.

F. G. Robb,  
Specialist in Inspection.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 20.

May 17, 1923

(Contents Confidential)

1a. WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS.

Weather, Crops and Markets for May 12 has quite a number of articles relating to fruits and vegetables and much material from the Division of Crop Estimates, as follows:-

- Page 441 - Brief summary of the week's markets.  
444 - How Crop Forecasts are Made.  
445 - Condition of Florida and California Crops on May 1.  
446 - Condition of Truck Crops in Early and Intermediate States.  
- Bermuda Onion Production in Texas, California and Louisiana.  
447 - Acreage of Cucumbers in North Carolina.  
- Large Strawberry Acreage in Carolinas.  
- Yield of Potatoes in Hastings section of Florida.  
448 - Estimated Farm Value of Potatoes and Sweet Potatoes by States.  
- Average Prices Received for Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes and Apples.  
449 - Estimated Farm Value of Apples.  
- Average Prices Received for Cabbage, Onions, Beans and Peanuts.  
450 - Estimated Farm Value of Beans.  
- Cantaloupe acreage in Imperial Valley.  
452 - Production of Sugar Beets and Beet Sugar in 1922.  
- Estimated Acreage of Tomatoes for Canning.  
454 - Agricultural Situation in Austria.  
464 - Potatoes Used in German Alcohol.  
465 - Weekly review of fruits and vegetables, with special paragraph on potatoes; carload shipments; f.o.b. prices.  
- Review of strawberry season at Plant City, Fla.  
466 - Arrivals and jobbing prices of fruits and vegetables.  
- Florida Potato Season Much Delayed, - by Mr. Evers.  
- North Carolina Strawberries Moving to Market, - by Mr. Snow.  
467 - Old Cabbage Shipments Break Record; review of cabbage season, with chart showing relation between receipts and market prices.  
468 - Monthly table of carlot shipments by States, for month of April.  
477 - List of new publications issued.

2a. CORRECTIONS IN "F&V-33" - TABLE OF PACKAGES PER CARLOAD.

Immediately make these changes in your copy of Table of Packages:

On page 6, under LETTUCE change -

Calif. and Ariz. crates (3-5 doz.) etc., to read	300-320	320
instead of	325-400	
Mark out "S.C." in item: Fla. & S.C. $\frac{3}{4}$ bbl. hmpers.	350-450	400
and insert below: S.C. $\frac{1}{2}$ bu. hampers	325-400	350

On page 11, under STRAWBERRIES -

Mark out "Fla., N&S. Carolina" before the	200-300	240
and add below 32 qt. crates: Fla., N. & S. Carolina	200-240	224

The above corrections have been made at Mr. Blair's suggestion. We will be glad to receive any other suggested changes that may seem necessary in the Table of Packages per Carload.

3a. ACTIVITIES IN FLORIDA.

The following very interesting letter was received from Mr. Hauck under date of May 9. It was written from Lakeland, Fla., to Mr. Samson and tells of the varied activities along the lines of standardization and shipping-point inspection in that State. It is of special importance to note the higher returns received for properly-graded tomatoes and strawberries:

"E. C. Miller is now in full charge of the inspection service in the Everglades. Yesterday I held a meeting in Ft. Myers with a number of the growers and shippers and discussed the tentative standards I have drawn up for the grading of peppers. Tomorrow I shall be in Ocala, and until further notice my address there will be the Colonial Hotel.

"When I left Lake Okeechobee we were inspecting all the tomatoes moving from Okeechobee City, approximately 95% of those moving from the East Beach, 75% to 85% of those moving from Belle Glade and South Bay, and all the output of one shipper, Mr. Chappel, at Clewiston. I had four inspectors on full time and another in the East Beach section that was helping Mr. English whenever the movement became so heavy that one man could not handle it all. That was only on certain days, and especially in the late afternoon and evening when the boats were loading at several points at once.

"The outlook for the crop had been steadily growing worse, due to adverse weather conditions which not only delayed the movement but reduced the tonnage materially. If the total shipments aggregate one-half the estimates we heard, I shall be surprised. The crop was recovering nicely from the effects of the storms we had while you and Mr. Robb were here, when it was hit by another period of hard rains, high winds and some hail, that lasted for three or four days last week. These storms were pretty general over the State and in some sections are reported to have done a great deal of damage to crops and to other property, even causing some loss of life.

"Incidentally I went through one of the worst of these storms out on the Lake last Thursday, (May 3) and thought for about an hour that Mrs. Hauck was due to collect on my life insurance any minute. Mr. Dew (County Agent) and the boatman and I were on our way from Canal Point to Belle Glade when the squall hit us and inside of half a minute we found ourselves in the midst of some very real danger. The severe part of the storm lasted for over an hour, during which time the only thing we could do was to run ahead of the wind and trust that we would not get blown onto a rock reef that would break the boat to pieces under us. The wind is reported as having made 50 to 60 miles an hour for a while, and several of the old salts who have been navigating that pond for a long time claim it was the hardest and the longest squall they have known for fifteen years.

"One of the two shippers at Belle Glade refused to use the inspection service and in addition failed to meet the No. 1 grade by 15% or 20%. The other is using the service on everything and puts up a good grade. The difference in returns is showing a premium of 50 cents to a dollar a crate in favor of the certified tomatoes, so the growers have forsaken the first shipper almost to a man, and his business was about due to close up when I left.

"The time appeared propitious to take the first steps toward the organization of a local cooperative association. We got some quick action and the day I left they started operations in their own packing house which they had put up in two days. Mr. Dew is going to handle all their output through Clewiston. (Continued on next page)



"You will recall that when I was in Plant City I was trying to induce the Plant City Growers Association to install a grading machine for their tomatoes and cucumbers. I found on a trip I have just made down there that they have actually bought one of these roller graders and belts from Skinner and have it in operation. The tomatoes they were running were about 15% below standard but I checked them up on that and believe there will be considerable improvement. The directors and the members want a good grade, but were not getting it because of too much speed in the packing house. With the equipment they have, there is no reason why they should not put up a fine grade.

"This association is planning a picnic on a big scale for June 14th and is inviting representatives of all other cooperatives handling the same crops in South Florida. Their aim is to inaugurate a movement at that time looking toward the establishment of a central distributing agency or exchange that will bind together all these locals. Mr. Rhodes, of the State Marketing Bureau, has consented to come down to address them. They have also asked me to talk on 'Standardization and Inspection of Perishables' and I have promised them that, if I am still in Florida, I shall try to come.

"I secured some very interesting figures in connection with our undertaking with the strawberries shipped by this organization at Plant City. The following table represents the average gross sale price per quart, taken from the original account sales slips returned by the distributor for ten days during the height of the season:

<u>U. S. No. 1 Berries</u>	<u>Ungraded Berries</u>
.31	.18½
.35	.35
.41½	.32
.40	.40
.35	.28
.35	.31½
.35	.25
.41	.40
.33	.35
.35	.30
<u>3.61½</u>	<u>3.15</u>
Average per qt. . . . .36 +	.31½

"I intend to give these figures some publicity among the membership of the Association and, if possible, to get them published in the Plant City Courier. I will have a more detailed account of this entire deal to give you later.

"As soon as I can, I will get to Hastings for the purpose of securing some of the information necessary to revise Farmers' Bulletin 753."

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTSMarket News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
LAREDO, TEXAS Chamber of Commerce	801	V. D. Callanan	Onions	Apr. 6	May 25
HASTINGS, FLA. 4 Byrd Bldg.	851	J. D. Evers	Potatoes	Apr. 24	May 25
JUDSONIA, ARK. Bank of Judsonia Bldg.	856	W. H. Mosier	Berries	May 8	May 29
RIPLEY, TENN. United Farmers Bldg.	806	G. E. Prince	Berries	May 9	May 29
CHARLESTON, S. C.*	858	J. D. Snow	Potatoes	May 18	June 5
MONETT, MO.	857	W. J. Bertush	Berries	May 19	June 12

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

BOWLING GREEN, KY.	859	H. J. Clay	Berries	May 28	June 12
BRAWLEY, CALIF.	808	C. E. Schultz V. D. Callanan	Cants.	May 25	July 12
OCALA, FLA.	832	J. D. Evers	W-Melons	May 28	June 16
FORT VALLEY, GA.	833	G. E. Prince	Peaches	June 1	July 10
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS.	809	R.H. Shoemaker	Tomatoes	June 1	June 23
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS	811	W. H. Mosier	Tomatoes	June 1	June 30

The following stations closed on dates indicated:

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 221 Ashton Bldg.	895	R.H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples	Oct. 17 Oct. 17	<u>Closed</u> May 15 Nov. 11
HAMMOND, LA. Post Office Bldg.	802	G. E. Prince	Berries	Mar. 28	May 14
CHADBOURN, N. C. Telephone Exch. Bldg.	805	J. D. Snow	Berries	Apr. 24	May 16

\* No mimeographed reports being issued at Charleston.  
R. H. Shoemaker on leave at Detroit, May 16-30.



MARKET NEWS SERVICE
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1b. CHANGE IN DATES ON WHICH "PRICES UNCHANGED" CAN BE USED IN DAILY WIRES.

As thrice-weekly reports are no longer being issued by any field station, our method of quoting "prices unchanged" and "conditions unchanged" will return to that given in Handbook Paragraph 121: "Always give complete prices at least every Monday and Thursday and following a holiday." Field stations should give complete prices and conditions at least every Saturday and Wednesday.

2b. FIRST ARRIVALS OF CANTALOUPE.

The following letter was received from C. L. Brown, in charge of the Boston office:

"You might be interested to know that the first car of cantaloupes for the season arrived yesterday, May 14. This was a car of Mexican melons and I believe was from one of the western states of Mexico. They were of fairly good quality, although not equal to the general run of Imperial Valley and Turlock cantaloupes. They were packed in standard 45's and sold at \$8.00, but did not move very rapidly at this price. The car did not clean up yesterday, and a load which was left over was sold this morning probably at a somewhat lower price."

Mr. Bidale recently advised that the first car of Mexican cantaloupes arrived in Philadelphia on May 10 and sold at \$10 per crate. The stock was of fairly good quality and condition, mostly good. The melons were of the salmon-tint variety and were packed as 36's and 45's.

E. W. STILLWELL,

Specialist in Market News.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK MAY 7 - 12, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted & Delivered
EASTERN CIRCUIT							
New York -	Misc. R	1:29	2:15	46	11	5,410	319
Washington-	Misc.	1:21	2:17	56	10	3,788	--
Philadelphia-	Misc.	1:05	2:32	87	11	5,030	355
Boston -	Misc. R	12:46	3:15	149	14	5,775	300
WESTERN CIRCUIT							
Cincinnati-	Misc. S	1:44	2:00	16	10	4,535	650
Chicago -	Misc.	1:03	1:20	17	10	5,500	320
St. Louis-	Misc.	12:03	12:31	23	12	2,250	375
Minneapolis-	Misc.	12:52	1:16	24	12	9,000	115
Pittsburgh-	Misc.	12:17	12:51	34	10	2,105	51
Kansas City-	Misc.	12:59	1:36	37	10	4,750	125
Washington-(Nat'l) FMRS P'nuts, Ship. Infm.					76	26,202	1,043
TOTAL		12:58#	1:47#	49#	186	74,345	3,653
" previous week		1:01#	1:44#	43#	194	97,761	3,833
WESTERN OFFICE (Apr. 30-May 5)							
Los Angeles-	Misc. LR	3:04	4:22	78	17	14,740	--
" "	previous week	3:26	4:17	51	17	14,133	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date					4,105	1,947,197	99,247

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK MAY 7-12, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered		In- crease	De- crease
Chadocurn -	S	2:06	3:38	2,600	407	1	--
Grand Rapids -	R	11:45	1:20	8,042	1,335	--	--
Hammond -	S	2:06	3:27	2,400	400	2	--
Hastings -	R	2:20	3:00	3,357	494	2	--
Laredo -	M	2:34	3:40	3,202	506	1	--
Ripley -	S	2:34	3:20	539	150	--	--
TOTAL		1:43#	3:04#	20,200			
" previous week		1:44#	2:54#	19,133			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				659,375			

# Average time.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 -2,705,819.



OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman and Mr. Samson spent last Thursday in New York City, conferring with representatives of this Division and with members of the trade regarding the future program of work with respect to fruits and vegetables.

It is with deep regret that we record the death of John O. Bell, who has been in immediate charge of the section compiling the reports of cold storage holdings. Mr. Bell recently completed a four-months' trip, covering the entire country and visiting the various cold storage plants. He doubtless visited our branch offices in a number of cities. Returning to Washington about April 1, his health continued poor and last Friday he went to Garfield Hospital for an operation. His death occurred two days later. Because of his service in the Philippine Islands during the Spanish-American war, the burial was at Arlington National Cemetery. Mr. Bell's original appointment in this Department was to the former Office of Markets and in the Market Surveys project, under Mr. Sherman's direction. He was connected with the Fruit and Vegetable work from February, 1916, to April, 1919, and will be well remembered by many of the present employees of this Division.

Carl H. Behnke, of Yakima, Wash., has been appointed as an Assistant Marketing Specialist and will report for duty in Chicago about June 4, where he will take the Inspector's training. Mr. Behnke received the B. S. degree from Oregon Agricultural College in 1919. After graduation, he served as foreman of a cattle ranch at Lowell, Ore., and later assisted in the operation of a fruit farm. During 1920 and 1921 he was employed as County Agent in Lewis County, Idaho, and since October, 1921, has served as Deputy Horticultural Inspector at Yakima, Wash. In this last position, Mr. Behnke was closely associated with shipping-point inspection work and himself inspected carlots of various kinds of fruits, besides giving demonstrations to groups of farmers in the grading of potatoes, apples, etc. He was employed by the State Agricultural College to put on grading demonstrations at the Pacific Northwest Fruit Exposition at Seattle. At various times he has served in an advisory capacity to farmers on questions relating to spraying, pruning and similar problems.

Jesse E. Dickerson, of Parma, Idaho, also has received appointment as an Assistant Marketing Specialist. He will go to Chicago about June 1 for training as an Inspector. Mr. Dickerson was graduated from Oregon Agricultural College in 1917, receiving the B. S. degree. During vacation periods he was employed in the Parma Fruit Warehouse, and assisted in the packing and loading of prunes and apples. He also worked on fruit farms in the vicinity of Sacramento, Calif., and later was employed as Junior Land Classifier for the U. S. Geological Survey, classifying homesteads under the 640-acre homestead Act. During 1918, Mr. Dickerson served in the Army, and subsequently managed a farm at Bellingham, Wash. He has been employed as a food products inspector by the State of Idaho since July, 1921, inspecting carlot shipments of potatoes, prunes, apples and lettuce, and also has assisted in crop-pest control work for that State.

During the period May 21 to June 7, H. S. Stiles, assistant in the Chicago office of the Market News Service, will be on leave at 73 Eutaw Ave., Lynn, Mass.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Beginning May 21, S. N. Green, Inspector in Cleveland, will take his annual vacation. His work will be handled temporarily by J. H. Hoover, who has gone from Chicago for this purpose.

H. T. Longino completed his vacation in Texas and reported at the Chicago office of the Inspection Service last Monday. He has since proceeded to New York City, where he will help with inspections for an indefinite period.

Walter Kingsbury arrived at San Diego on May 12, and A. S. Mason will complete his service as Navy Inspector at that point on Saturday, the 19th. Mr. Mason's resignation is effective May 25, following a week's leave which is due him.

Messrs. Hackleman and Conklin met in conference at Chattanooga, Tenn., last Sunday, to compare notes on the strawberry situation in that district. On account of cold and rainy weather, the movement of berries from East Tennessee has been very light to date.

H. C. Miller, now in charge of the shipping-point inspection of tomatoes in the Lake Okeechobee section of Florida, reports that only a small number of cars is being certified, because of the failure of much of the crop to meet specifications for U. S. No. 1 grade. This failure is due largely to overripe condition, puffiness, crooks and catfaces.

According to reports from C. W. Hauck, who is temporarily at Ocala, Fla., the tomatoes in that district are cracking badly on account of heavy rains. It is questionable whether the growers can pack any considerable percentage of No. 1 stock. By the end of this week, Mr. Hauck hopes to decide whether or not it will be practicable to undertake shipping-point inspection of Ocala tomatoes.

Heavy movement of potatoes will not begin from the Charleston section of South Carolina until about May 21, according to advices received from Robert Bier, who will supervise shipping-point inspection in that territory.

Mrs. Helen Britt has been given a three-month's appointment as clerk in Mr. Patton's section, during the absence of Mrs. Moeckel on furlough.

On the list of temporary field stations of the Market News Service it will be observed that Mr. Prince has relieved Mr. Bertush at Ripley, Tenn., following the closing of the station at Hammond, La. Mr. Bertush has proceeded to Monett, Mo., where he will issue market reports on strawberries for the next three weeks. Since the closing of the Grand Rapids office, R. H. Shoemaker is on annual leave at Detroit; he can be reached through the Detroit office. J. D. Snow has proceeded from Chadbourn, N. C., to Charleston, S. C., at which latter place he will operate a news service on potatoes. It has been decided to continue operation of the field station at Hastings, Fla., until about May 25.

J. W. Park will not, as anticipated, return to the Fruit and Vegetable Division this summer but will continue work with the Seed Grain Loan office at Grand Forks, N. Dak., until next winter.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D.C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 21

May 24, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. CIRCULAR SENT TO BASKET MANUFACTURERS.

Of all the work of the Fruit and Vegetable Division, perhaps that relating to the enforcement of the Standard Container Act is least understood by other members of the Division. This is mainly because Mr. Spilman, who is in immediate charge of this branch of the work, naturally deals with the manufacturers of containers for fruits and vegetables rather than with our men in city offices and field stations. Under date of May 16, he sent to about 300 manufacturers of baskets the following interesting circular, which throws considerable light on the activities of his particular section:-

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics, in connection with its work in the enforcement of the U. S. Standard Container Act, has reached certain conclusions regarding methods of avoiding variations in capacity and has formulated certain suggestions which it wishes to offer to the trade. Manufacturers owe it to their customers to protect them in so far as the capacity of the containers is concerned, and it is the experience of this office that the great majority of manufacturers make an earnest effort to fulfill this responsibility. It is hoped that observance of the suggestions given below may assist you in this effort:-

1. SPECIFY STANDARD FORMS in making purchases from machine manufacturers. By specifying in your order that the form should be of a size to make baskets of standard capacity you put it up to the manufacturer to protect you on this point. It is further suggested that you ask the manufacturer, before making delivery of the machine or form, to submit to this office baskets made on the form for test as to their capacity. This will enable you to know definitely that baskets of standard capacity can be made on the form which you secure.

2. DON'T CHANGE A STANDARD FORM in any way unless it is absolutely necessary. If you make any change in a form or in the adjustment of a machine which might affect the capacity of the baskets, send samples to this office in order to make certain that you have not made such a change as will cause a deviation from standard. An example of changes which are made which frequently result in marked changes in capacity is the changing of the adjustment on round stave basket machines so as to give greater dish to the basket. A difference in capacity is also caused by drawing the center hoop more tightly in order to make the baskets nest properly. It is of course important that baskets nest easily but in making sure of this factor do not make your baskets too small.

3. SPECIAL FORMS should be ordered only after sending in samples of the basket to this office in order that they may first be tested for capacity. If full information is given at the time, this office will, if the baskets are of proper capacity, forward samples to the machine company designated by you. During the past 18 months we have had several instances of manufacturers having had forms made to fit some basket which they liked, only to find later that the basket was not of standard capacity and that material changes in their forms were necessary. Why not think of this matter in the first place? It is better to be safe than sorry. (Continued over)

4. IF YOU MAKE YOUR OWN FORMS, send samples of the basket used as a model for the form and have them tested for capacity before making the forms. If you have no samples and are developing a form according to your own ideas, send in samples made on the form before you commence commercial manufacture. This will enable you to avoid putting out any non-standard baskets and will assist you in getting things right at the start.

5. INSPECT FORMS FREQUENTLY. This applies particularly to "skeleton" forms such as are frequently used with single-head stapling machines in the manufacture of till baskets. Inspect these forms frequently in order to assure yourself that they have not been bent and still take an inside top band of standard length. Some factories staple this inside top band first on a separate form and in such cases it generally is sufficient to make certain that the band-stapling form is correct. Other factories cut these inside top bands a definite length and are then able to tell by measuring the lap whether the bands are up to standard. Where neither of these plans is followed, it is well to mark a band which the operator has placed on the form, take it off, and measure it. In doing this an effort should be made to measure bands as they are normally placed on the form by the operator. It has been found that, where operators think a band is to be measured, they generally unconsciously draw the band more tightly than is done in actual practice.

The above suggestions are offered in the hope that they may be of constructive assistance to manufacturers. This office desires to cooperate with manufacturers to the fullest extent and assist in every way possible in assuring growers and shippers that they are obtaining goods of standard capacity. In requesting samples from manufacturers, as is frequently done, this office does not do so with the idea that it is going to catch some manufacturer putting out a short basket. We make these requests in order that we may have an up-to-date record of each manufacturer's output, which will be available in case any question arises, and in order that we may assist the manufacturer by letting him know definitely just what he is making. In many instances we have been able to suggest to the manufacturer reductions in the capacity of his basket. It is not uncommon to find baskets which run larger than is permitted by the regulations as well as baskets which run smaller.

Very truly yours,

H. A. Spilman,

Investigator in Package Standardization.

In this connection, it is of interest to note that, during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922, Mr. Spilman traveled nearly 16,000 miles, made visits to more than 60 package factories in 12 States, called on a number of wholesale dealers and State officials with regard to standardization work, and attended four conventions, at three of which he made addresses relating to this work. Nearly 2,300 containers of various descriptions were submitted for official test as to capacity, an increase of 1,800 over the preceding year.



TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTSMarket News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Main List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
JUDSONIA, ARK. Bank of Judsonia Bldg.	856	W. H. Mosier	Berries	May 8	May 29
RIPLEY, TENN. United Farmers Bldg.	806	G. E. Prince	Berries	May 9	May 25
CHARLESTON, S. C.* Chamber of Commerce	858	J. D. Snow	Potatoes	May 21	June 2
MONETT, MO.	857	W. J. Bertush	Berries	May 22	June 12
BRAWLEY, CALIF.	808	C. E. Schultz V. D. Callanan	Cants.	May 25	July 12

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

BOWLING GREEN, KY.	859	E. J. Clay	Berries	May 28	June 12
OCALA, FLA.	832	J. D. Evers	W-Melons	May 29	June 16
FORT VALLEY, GA.	833	G. E. Prince	Peaches	June 1	July 10
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS.	809	R. H. Shoemaker	Tomatoes	June 1	June 23
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS	811	W. H. Mosier	Tomatoes	June 1	June 30
ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.	810	J. D. Snow	Potatoes	June 4	June 25

The following stations closed on dates indicated:

LAREDO, TEXAS Chamber of Commerce	801	V. D. Callanan	Onions	Apr. 6	Closed May 24
HASTINGS, FLA. 4 Byrd Bldg.	851	J. D. Evers	Potatoes	Apr. 24	May 23.

\* No mimeographed reports being issued at Charleston.  
R. H. Shoemaker on leave at Detroit, May 16-30.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. EXPENSE ACCOUNTS AND VOUCHERS MUST BE SUBMITTED PROMPTLY.

In order to avoid incurring a deficit through overspending funds allotted to us for the fiscal year 1923, it is especially essential that expense accounts and Form 5 vouchers be submitted promptly from now until June 30. Every market and field station man must submit promptly at the end of May vouchers or expense accounts for all outstanding liabilities against our work. If, for any reason, accounts or bills involving any appreciable sum cannot be handled promptly, advise the Washington office of the amount of these liabilities and the reasons for delay in handling. Cooperation in this matter must be secured. Avoid any unusual expense that can be postponed until after June 30.

2b. SPECIAL SERVICE AT CHARLESTON, S. C.

Announcement was made in the Division Letter of May 10 that no mimeographed reports were to be issued at Charleston, S. C. Below is a copy of the circular letter sent to our Charleston mailing list regarding the service. This is a new departure for field station work and we are interested to see what success is met with. Mr. Snow's letter follows:-

"The Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture, will open its Market News Service office for the potato shipping season at the Chamber of Commerce Building, Charleston, S. C., on Monday, May 21. Due to a lack of finances, no printed reports will be mailed out, but information about daily shipments, destinations of South Carolina shipments, Potomac Yards passings, shipping-point information and city markets can be obtained by telephone or telegraph from the office by telephoning "Charleston 4260" or wiring "Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Chamber of Commerce, Charleston, S.C." We will telephone or telegraph all or any part of this information to you at your expense.

"The Charleston daily newspapers - the Evening Post, News-Courier, and American - will carry daily, in complete form, the information mentioned above.

"Through the courtesy of the Charleston Engineering Department, this information will be broadcasted daily by radio at 3:30 P. M. on a 485-meter wave-length from station "Charleston Engineering Department" at the Customs House.

"We hope that through either the telephone, telegraph, newspapers or radio we can be of service to all parties interested in marketing the South Carolina white potato crop.

"We can give you daily:- shipments by States, destinations of South Carolina shipments, f.o.b. information, Potomac Yards passings, and market information on Baltimore, Washington, Cleveland, New York, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, and Detroit."



3b. PLANS FOR WORK FOR NEXT FISCAL YEAR.

While many of the details for the Market News work on Fruits and Vegetables for the fiscal year 1924 must still be worked out, it is thought a statement of tentative plans may be of interest:

It is expected that the leased wire will be extended west from Kansas City to San Francisco with drops at Denver, Salt Lake City, Reno, Nev., and Sacramento. A year-around office will be opened at Denver, with John P. Snow in charge. Tentative plans call for handling the Monte Vista and Greeley deals and mailing lists from the Denver office. Rocky Ford will be operated as a field station as usual. Recent legislation in Colorado nullified a cooperative agreement between this Bureau, the Colorado Division of Marketing and the Extension Service of the Colorado Agricultural College for an intensive distribution of information in Colorado. This cooperative agreement provided for an office at Grand Junction from about July 15 to December 15. Pending adjustment of the situation in Colorado we are still hoping to operate an office at Grand Junction but for a shorter period of time.

It is expected that J.R. Duncan will be in charge of an office at Salt Lake City and will jointly represent the Market News service on Fruits and Vegetables and Live Stock, Meats and Wool. He will also handle such terminal inspection of fruits and vegetables as may be requested.

An office at Sacramento will be opened about July 15 with C. E. Schultz in charge. Reports will be issued on peaches, pears, fresh prunes and plums, and grapes. This office will be conducted jointly with the State Department of Agriculture and may develop into a year-around office. Plans for an office at San Francisco are still undecided. We may have a year-around office at that point and we may have no office. Final decision in this matter will depend largely upon whether or not the Naval Radio Station at Mare Island can be used to transmit reports by radio to Los Angeles and Portland.

R. L. Ringer expects to open a year-around office at Portland about July 1. The exact service to be given from that point will be determined later. Spokane will be operated as usual.

The program conducted by the Los Angeles office will be enlarged considerably, and complete reports will be issued on a number of the principal products shipped from southern California.

Present plans provide for the extension of the leased wire to Atlanta, Ga., but it is possible that this will not be done. Whether or not the leased wire is extended to Georgia, we are planning to place T. C. Curry in joint charge of the Market News and Inspection work at Atlanta. A miscellaneous report will be issued throughout the year, and special reports on certain products for the benefit of sections not served by field stations also probably will be issued.

It is hoped that funds will be available for the operation of additional field stations at Fresno, Calif.; Grand Junction, Colo.; Moorhead, Minn.; Martinsburg, W. Va., and Westfield, N.Y.

Daily telegraphic reports will be secured on the following additional commodities: oranges, grapefruit and lemons, asparagus, cherries, string beans, cucumbers, eggplant, fresh prunes and plums, and peppers. Unload reports will be secured on citrus fruits, watermelons and grapes in addition to the present commodities. Slightly increased programs will be carried on in certain market stations. In order to give an adequate service to the California fruit interests, auction reports will have to be secured in most cities. No price service will be given on citrus fruits.

E. W. STILLWELL.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK MAY 14-19, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number			
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Report Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted & Delivered	
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>							
Philadelphia -	Misc.	1:45	2:03	18	12	5,060	380
New York -	Misc. R	1:28	1:53	25	12	5,302	328
Washington -	Misc.	1:29	2:18	49	10	2,900	--
Boston -	Misc.	12:32	2:08	96	10	2,775	300
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>							
Pittsburgh -	Misc.	12:09	12:29	20	10	1,312	51
St. Louis -	Misc.	12:27	12:47	20	10	1,325	250
Chicago -	Misc.	12:50	1:12	22	13	5,600	300
Cincinnati -	Misc. S	1:28	1:54	26	10	4,580	650
Minneapolis -	Misc.	12:02	12:28	26	12	9,025	132
Kansas City-Honey, Misc.		12:15	1:01	46	10	9,457	120
<u>Washington (Nat'l) FMRS, P'nuts, Honey, Snip, Infrn.</u>							
				74		28,269	1,127
TOTAL		12:50#	1:25#	35#	183	77,065	3,638
" previous week		12:58#	1:47#	49#	186	74,345	3,653
<u>WESTERN OFFICE (MAY 7-12)</u>							
Los Angeles - Misc. LMR		3:12	3:54	42	17	14,743	--
" " previous week		3:04	4:22	78	17	14,740	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date					4,305	2,039,005	102,885

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK MAY 14-19, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Chadocorn -	S	2:26	3:55	1,297	409	--	--
Grand Rapids -	R	12:00	1:15	2,584	1,337	--	--
Hammond -	S	2:11	3:15	403	403	1	--
Hastings -	R	2:15	3:06	3,300	501	1	--
Laredo -	M	3:16	4:19	5,291	515	2	--
Ripley -	S	2:24	3:11	1,025	171	14	--
TOTAL		2:05#	3:20#	12,000			
" previous week		1:43#	3:00#	20,200			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				671,375			

# Average time.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 2,815,265.



## FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. INSPECTION OF LETTUCE FOR CONDITION ONLY.

When reinspection of lettuce is made for condition only, maturity statement should cover condition of heads only as they have been affected by wilting which may have taken place during transit. Solidity of heads will change only as result of wilting. Reports under this heading, therefore, should be restricted to freshness and wilting as given under general maturity terms; see paragraphs 142 - 148, I.H.B. Decay, brown margins, and other defects which may develop in transit should, of course, be reported.

2c. INSPECTION WORK AT OCALA.

Inspection service on tomatoes has been started at Ocala, Fla., under the supervision of C. W. Henck. Two inspectors from the Okeechobee section have been secured to assist in this work. The rain of last week is thought to have done no damage except to cause cracking of tomatoes around the stem, most of which stock was gotten out of the way on the first picking. It is expected that service will be used more extensively than that in the Okeechobee section.

3c. WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS.

All employees of the F. & V. Division will be interested in the following articles and statistical data relating to fruits and vegetables, as published in Weather, Crops and Markets for May 19:-

- Page 481 - Summaries of early peach production, acreage of cantaloupes, and the wholesale markets for week ending May 12.
- 482 - Condition and Prospects of Early Peach Crop, by States.  
- Farm Wages and Labor Supply.
- 483 - Forecast of Commercial Acreage of early and intermediate Cantaloupes, of early Watermelons, and of intermediate Onions.  
- Filler on South Carolina snap bean acreage.  
- Carload Shipments of Citrus Fruits for March.
- 490 - Cold Storage Holdings of Apples and Lemons on May 1.
- 491 - Holdings of Apples and Lemons by Sections.  
- Weekly review of fruit and vegetable markets, with special paragraph on strawberries.
- 492 - Carload shipments of fruits and vegetables for the week.  
- Table of f.o.b. prices; and arrivals and jobbing prices in cities.  
- Fillers on shipping-point inspection of strawberries and tomatoes.
- 493 - Standardization and Cooperative Marketing, - by Mr. Samson.
- 501 - List of new publications issued.
- 502 - Effect of weather on certain crops.

"UNFAITHFULNESS IN THE KEEPING OF AN APPOINTMENT IS AN ACT OF CLEAR DISHONESTY. YOU MAY AS WELL BORROW A PERSON'S MONEY AS HIS TIME."

- Horace Mann.

4c. CONDITIONS IN THE HILLS-HEART BRAND DISTRICT.

W. C. Hackleman, who is handling shipping-point inspection of strawberries at Spring City, Tenn., wrote the following letter to Mr. Robb on May 19:

"Have had good sunny weather since Wednesday, and I think the effects of heavy rains last Saturday and Tuesday are about over with. Some of the stock shipped Wednesday and Thursday showed effects of rains, and I have no doubt the markets are filled with stuff that is like it, much of it being on consignment. Wish I could see some of these berries after they arrive, as I am sure they show up much worse than these people realize.

"Aromas are starting and next week will be heavy, with Klondikes running down. The crop of the latter in this section is going to be short, but I believe Aromas will be good if weather is favorable.

"The question of when a strawberry contains too much water to be No. 1 may prove to be a very difficult one in rainy seasons."

Two days later - on May 21 - E. E. Conklin, Jr., who is doing similar work in the vicinity of Cleveland, Tenn., wrote as follows to Mr. Hackleman:

"I was pleased to get your letter of last Thursday. The Association people were particularly interested to hear the high prices which you received the first of last week.

"Our first car went out Tuesday, May 15th, and contained 54 crates of U. S. No. 1 stock. The rest of the week we loaded one car a day, except Saturday when we got out two, making a total of six to date. After the first couple of cars, we loaded the U. S. No. 1's in one end of the car and the U. S. No. 2's in the other. We have been labeling the first grade Hills-Heart Brand, the second grade Summit Brand. The labeling is done in the car after the crates have been inspected and works very satisfactorily that way.

"Our first cars contained about 100 crates of Klondikes, but this dwindled to 25 or 50 toward the last of the week, and within a few days we expect to stop shipping Klondikes entirely.

"The Klondikes have run small and soft and very few have met the U. S. grade No. 1. The Aromas, however, are running good size and pretty good quality, and we are having quite good success getting the growers to grade them. Most growers are having the pickers do the grading and they make two grades to bring in. No. 1 contains berries over one inch in diameter, not overripe and not underripe. These berries present a medium to large, mostly large, appearance. The No. 2 grade consists of berries between three-quarters and one inch in diameter, not overripe and with all cull, undeveloped berries out. This grade generally shows considerable pale berries, which we do not exclude.

"This probably will be our heaviest week, although the season will last two weeks or two weeks and a-half longer. We expect to ship about 20 cars this week.

"We had a heavy rain Saturday and again yesterday (May 20), which probably will give us considerable soft berries today. If the weather is fairly favorable the balance of the week, we should ship pretty good quality stuff. We hope to load solid cars of U. S. No. 1 Hills-Heart Brand berries this week."

F. G. Robb,  
Specialist in Inspection.



OFFICE NOTES:

The Washington office and all offices outside of Washington will be closed next Wednesday, May 30, - Memorial Day.

Mr. Samson expects to spend next Monday in Trenton, N. J., conferring with State officials, growers and shippers regarding grades for barreled apples.

Porter R. Taylor, Acting Chief of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Markets, was in Washington a few days ago, to confer on matters relating to Market News and Inspection work.

Last Friday, M.C. Gregory went from Pittsburgh to Buffalo for the purpose of assisting in the re-inspection of a car of California lettuce.

H. J. Clay has left for Henderson, Ky., where he will take a few days' annual leave before proceeding to Bowling Green to operate a field station on strawberries. During his absence, Miss Lucy Watt is in immediate charge of the section handling market reports.

Howard R. Wilson, of Mr. Patton's section, was transferred to the Bureau of Public Roads last Monday. His original appointment to this Bureau was in Mr. Hawhurst's section (compiling mail reports of shipments) in September, 1921. When that work was consolidated under Mr. Patton, he became one of the latter's staff of workers.

From May 29 to June 6, Herbert Graff, of the New York inspection office, expects to be on leave in Washington.

W. C. Hackleman and Miss Georgia Lee Ritchie, of the section of Mails and Files, have recently announced their engagement. The wedding may be an event of the early summer. --(B.A.E. News)

Two new marketing bulletins, recently issued, probably will be of considerable interest to field men of the Fruit and Vegetable Division. They are "Marketing Farm Products" by the Virginia Division of Markets and "The Marketing of Kentucky Strawberries" by the Agricultural Experiment Station at Lexington, Ky. - (State and Federal Marketing Activities.)

Before closing the field station at Hastings, Fla., Mr. Evers wired to the effect that the remainder of the potato crop in that section was practically ruined by recent rains. Of the estimated 250 carloads still in the ground, much was expected to be plowed under and actual shipments probably will not exceed 50 cars.

On account of the rain and low prices, the strawberry shipping season at Spring City, Tenn., is coming to an end earlier than was expected and Mr. Hackleman will close the inspection work there on Friday of this week. He will return to Washington after spending a day with Mr. Conklin at Cleveland, Tenn.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 22

May 31, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. ESTIMATE OF PEACH PRODUCTION IN GEORGIA.

According to final estimates of the Georgia Fruit Exchange, as reported by Mr. Curry, of the Atlanta office, following will be the commercial production of Georgia peaches by varieties:- Mayflowers 6,000-7,000 crates; probably no carlot shipments. Other varieties:

Unneedas.....	716 cars	Hileys.....	1,691 cars
Other early		Georgia Belles....	1,751 "
varieties....	197 "	Elbertas.....	3,283 "
Carmanas.....	644 "	TOTAL.....	8,282 cars

Mr. Curry's wire states that the grand total is placed at 8,390 cars. Most of the Unneedas will move the first ten days of June.

2b. MISSISSIPPI TOMATO CROP.

Advices from a leading factor in the Crystal Springs, Miss., tomato deal state that a few cars are expected to roll between June 1 and 5, with heavy shipments starting June 7 to 9. Acreage is reported to be the same as last year's but the yield probably will be smaller and shipments from Mississippi may total 3,000 cars.

3b. INTERESTING DATA ON LOUISIANA STRAWBERRIES.

In a recent letter, G. E. Prince advised that, so far as he "was able to learn from the growers and field men of the associations, it seems that the yield of Louisiana strawberries this season could be placed at 120-130 24-pint crates, or 1,440-1,560 quarts to the acre."

He states that the average price per quart this season was approximately 25¢ at shipping points.

"The percentage of the crop used by juice manufacturers and preserving companies is less than 1% (or about 200,000 qts.), especially this season with the high prices received. A wine-making plant was established at Hammond this season to take care of the overripes, and paid the growers 5¢ per pound for unstemmed berries. They estimated that 16 pounds of berries were used in making one gallon of wine, and around 300 gallons had been made at the time our Hammond office closed. It is safe to say that very few berries were used after the close of the shipping season. The law in Louisiana also allows each person to make 50 gallons of wine, and it is probable that a large part of the culls are used in this manner, but it is impossible to get an estimate of the wine made by the growers."

See Par. 4b.  
on page 232.

E. W. STILLWELL,  
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTSMarket News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
JUDSONIA, ARK. Bank of Judsonia Bldg.	856	W. H. Mosier	Berries	May 8	June 5
CHARLESTON, S.C.* Chamber of Commerce	858	J. D. Snow	Potatoes	May 21	June 2
MONETT, MO. 1st Natl. Bank Bldg.	857	W. J. Bertush	Berries	May 22	June 12
BRAWLEY, CALIF.	808	C. E. Schultz W. D. Callahan	Cants.	May 29	July 12
BOWLING GREEN, KY.	859	H. J. Clay	Berries	May 23	June 12
OCALA, FLA.	832	J. D. Evers	W-Melons	May 29	June 16

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

FORT VALLEY, GA.	833	G. E. Prince	Peaches	June 4	July 10
ELIZABETH CITY, N.C.	810	J. D. Snow	Potatoes	June 4	June 25
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS.	809	R. H. Shoemaker	Tomatoes	June 7	June 30
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS	811	W. H. Mosier	Tomatoes	June 11	June 30

The following station closed on date indicated:

RIPLEY, TENN. United Farmers Bldg.	806	G. E. Prince	Berries	May 9	CLOSED May 25
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\* No mimeographed reports being issued at Charleston.



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK MAY 21 - 26, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST.TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted & Delivered
<b>EASTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Philadelphia-Misc.	1:33	1:48	15	11	5,100	380
New York - Misc. R	1:27	1:53	26	11	5,525	330
Washington - Misc.	1:19	2:22	63	10	1,540	--
Boston - Misc.	12:24	2:00	96	10	2,800	300
<b>WESTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Chicago - Misc.	1:04	1:22	18	12	6,240	750
St. Louis - Misc.	12:28	12:48	20	12	2,375	375
Pittsburgh - Misc.	12:12	12:33	21	10	1,852	48
Minneapolis - Misc.	12:52	1:16	24	12	9,060	132
Cincinnati - Misc. S	1:36	2:04	28	10	4,635	650
Kansas City - Misc.	1:16	2:08	52	10	4,750	125
Washington-(Nat'l) FWS, P'nuts, Ship. Information				73	27,200	1,007
TOTAL	1:01#	1:37#	36#	181	71,077	4,097
" previous week	12:50#	1:25#	35#	183	77,665	3,638
<b>WESTERN OFFICE (May 14-19)</b>						
Los Angeles - Misc. LMR	3:26	4:17	51	17	14,732	--
" " -previous week	3:12	3:54	42	17	14,743	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				4,503	2,124,814	106,982

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK MAY 21 - 26, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT.TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Hastings - R.	3:13	3:58	1,599	500	--	--
*Judsonia - S	2:17	3:13	8,200	502	--	--
Laredo - M	2:50	3:55	2,182	517	--	--
Monett - S	1:27	3:54	4,160	331	--	--
Ripley - S	1:45	3:09	1,132	189	2	--
TOTAL	2:18#	3:38#	17,273	--	--	--
" previous week	2:05#	3:20#	12,000	--	--	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			688,648			

# Average Time.

\* Includes reports since opening date.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 2,920,444.

FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE1c. CHANGE IN LISTING COLLECTIONS ON LETTERS OF TRANSMITTAL.

From now on, it will not be necessary to list the collections of fees and expenses in separate columns, as has been the practice. All collections may now be listed under the one heading "Amount," giving the total of the check in this column and disregarding the other two columns.

2c. CIRCULARS FOR HANDBOOK.

Circulars on CELERY for the Inspector's Handbook have been forwarded to each office in the past week. Any Inspector who does not receive his copy within a reasonable length of time should advise the Washington office. A new supply of CABBAGE circulars has been received and one will be sent to each Inspector in the near future. The reference numbers to Part I of the Handbook have been revised in this circular, in accordance with the revised Part I.

3c. INSPECTOR'S NOTES FOR THREE-FOLD BINDERS.

A supply of Inspector's Notes for the three-fold binder has been received and will be furnished any office that desires them. The number for these Notes is F.P.I.-18.

4c. WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR MAY 26.

In Weather, Crops and Markets for May 26 is the following material on fruits and vegetables, and on related subjects:-

- Page 505 - Summary of the markets for week ending May 19, and a statement concerning canning tomatoes on Eastern Shore of Maryland.
- 506 - Filler regarding Tennessee and Delaware sweet potatoes.
- Articles on Eastern Shore tomatoes and acreage of canning peas.
  - Production of Maple Sugar and Maple Sirup.
- 513 - Arkansas Berry Movement Under Way, - by Mr. Mosier.
- 514 - Weekly review, with special paragraphs on new and old potatoes.
- Carload shipments for the week, and f.o.b. prices.
- 515 - Arrivals and jobbing prices in leading markets.
- Additional Market News field stations.
  - Fruit and Vegetable Inspections in April, with comparative data.
  - Florida Potato Shipments about 3,000 Cars, - By Mr. Evers. (Part of this article had to be omitted because of lack of space.)
- 525 - List of new publications issued.
- 526 - Effect of weather on certain crops.

W. C. HACKLEMAN,

Supervising Inspector.



OFFICE NOTES:

W. H. Stanton, who has been in charge of the Market News office in New York for more than three years, is expected to report for duty in Washington on June 1, preparatory to assuming charge of the enlarged Section of Audits and Accounts for this Bureau. The B.A.E. News for May 29 carries an announcement to the effect that, in addition to its present work, the Section of Audits and Accounts will inaugurate a system of keeping current balances and credits, so that all divisions of the Bureau may be advised frequently of the status of their funds. The appointment of Mr. Stanton to his new position will not affect the duties of P. H. Quinn, who still will be in charge of one of the sub-sections of the Section of Audits and Accounts. Mr. Stanton was originally appointed to the fruit and vegetable work as a clerk in March, 1916. He advanced consecutively to the positions of Market Station Assistant, Assistant in Market Surveys, and Investigator in Market News, the last having been his title since February, 1922. In the fall of 1919 he operated the field station on potatoes at Presque Isle, Maine, and at various times has assisted or substituted in market stations in leading cities. During his seven years in Market News work, Mr. Stanton has rendered excellent service, and his departure from the Fruit and Vegetable Division is sincerely regretted.

About 10 days ago, O. D. Miller went from Washington to New York, where he is now in charge of the market reporting work, succeeding W. H. Stanton. His name should be substituted under New York City on the Market Station Address List, with Rogers Koops as technical assistant.

Mr. Robb left yesterday for Charleston, S. C., where he will study the progress of shipping-point inspection of potatoes, which is being conducted under the direction of Robert Bier. It is understood that about 20 cooperative (local) inspectors are engaged in this work and that they have been handling 50 or more cars daily. Present indications are that at least 1,200 carloads of South Carolina potatoes will be shipped under Federal-State certificates from the vicinity of Charleston, Meggett and Beaufort. Mr. Robb probably will return to Washington by Monday, June 4.

A recent wire from C. W. Hauck, at Ocala, Fla., states that 2 to 5 cars of tomatoes were being inspected daily at shipping points in that territory and that 34 certificates had been issued to date. Rainy weather, however, has been continuing in Florida and it is planned to discontinue the inspection of tomatoes this Saturday. H. C. Miller, who was conducting shipping-point work in the Lake Okeechobee district, proceeded to Ocala a few days ago and has been assisting Mr. Hauck at the latter point. It will not be possible to operate an inspection service on watermelons at Ocala, as originally planned, because the crop is short and the condition of melons poor.

During the period June 6 to 20, E. J. Powell, of the Glenwood Springs office of the Colorado Division of Marketing, will substitute for Paul A. Cauble, cooperative inspector in Denver, while the latter takes annual leave.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Unofficial reports are to the effect that Tuesday, June 5, may be declared a holiday in the Washington office, because of the large parade and other demonstrations in connection with the national convention of Shriners. At least 300,000 people are expected in Washington for this gathering next week, which will nearly double the population. If Tuesday is observed as a holiday, due notice will be given all offices over the leased wire, so that all may know what arrangements are made for the handling of work in Washington. This will not affect the program in market or field stations. Daily telegraphic reports should be submitted as usual by all offices.

A training class for Inspectors will be started in Chicago next week. Those listed for this instruction are C. H. Behnke and J. E. Dickerson, two recent appointees; W. H. Steinbauer, of Pennsylvania; Rogers Koops, of New York, and Neal D. Sanborn, whose appointment is yet to be consummated. Mr. Koops probably will not be able to leave our New York office until the latter part of next week and therefore may not begin this training until about June 11.

W. H. Steinbauer, who has been a cooperative inspector at Erie, Pa., has now been appointed as an Assistant Marketing Specialist and will be paid wholly from Federal funds. The Erie inspection office has been closed. Mr. Steinbauer has proceeded to Chicago, for further training in inspection work. The Division Letter for September 1, 1921, gave a brief account of his education and previous experience.

Having spent considerable time in the Coachella Valley and Imperial Valley of California, R. C. Butner returned to the Los Angeles office about a week ago, and can again be reached at Room 285 Wholesale Terminal Bldg.

Since the closing of the field station at Hastings, Fla., A. L. Thomas, telegraph operator, has gone with Mr. Evers to Ocala, where he will continue experiments in the receiving of market reports from Arlington, Va., by radio.

V. D. Callanan reached Brawley, Calif., last Monday, where he will co-operate with C. E. Schultz in the issuance of cantaloupe market reports. Mr. Callanan operated the field station on onions at Laredo, Texas, until May 24.

R. L. Ringer expects to leave St. Louis next week. He will proceed to Portland, Oregon, and make arrangements for the re-opening of an office in that city. Mr. Ringer was in charge of the Portland office prior to its closing in the spring of 1920.

Mrs. Doris S. Ireland, of Mr. Fiske's section, went to the Chicago office of the Market News Service on Tuesday, where she will handle temporarily the work of Mrs. M. E. Showalter, recently resigned. About June 15, Mrs. Ireland will proceed to Portland, and will be clerical assistant to Mr. Ringer after July 1. She has been in the Bureau for more than two years, and was employed in the Domestic Wool Section before working with Mr. Fiske.



OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

W. L. Evans has gone to Baltimore to assist in the trial of an excess wool profits case against Henry Marcus & Son. J. S. Bohannon, of the Solicitor's office, also went to Baltimore in this case, and will visit the district attorneys in Syracuse and Boston in connection with other pending trials instituted by the Domestic Wool Section.

It has been decided to continue the Judsonia, Ark., office of the News Service until about June 5. Mr. Mosier will not begin issuing reports on tomatoes at Jacksonville, Texas, until around June 11.

Continued rains in East Tennessee the latter part of last week resulted in a bad condition of the strawberries, and E. E. Conklin, Jr., reports that the inspection service around Cleveland, Tenn., may be discontinued very shortly.

Following the closing of the field station at Ripley, Tenn., on May 25, G. E. Prince took a few days' leave at Walhalla, S. C., en route to Fort Valley, Ga., where he will soon issue market reports on peaches.

Present plans call for the opening of an inspection office at New Haven, Conn., in the near future. F. M. Lyle, who has been assisting in Washington for six months, will return to New York City about June 10 and later will go to New Haven, to assume temporary charge of inspection work in that city.

Th. E. Lewis, of the New York inspection staff, is now on annual leave and is expected to report for temporary duty in Washington early next week, to take up the work handled by Mr. Lyle. L. H. Martin, of the Washington office, also is giving active assistance in the local carlot inspections.

The following letter was received from J.W. Park, who has been connected with the Farmers' Seed Loan Office at Grand Forks, N. Dak., since last fall: "Mr. N.A. Olsen (in charge) is to go back on Agricultural History work beginning July 1, and I am to be in charge of the administrative work here for the fall collection campaign. It is probable that, if the drive for the collection of the outstanding \$1,200,000 of seed loans is pushed till the end of the year, the greater part of this will be collected and that I will be released from Seed Loans about that time. I expect to get back East about the end of June and will be on leave during most of July."

Miss Mayme Parker, of the Domestic Wool Section, is one of the two persons detailed from this Bureau to assist the Classification Board, under the direction of Judge Warwick. She will be located in the Treasury Building during the next few months. In Miss Parker's absence, Mrs. Hilda Bailey will handle the distribution of checks to wool growers who are sharing in the excess profits made on the 1918 clip.

The opening of the field station at Crystal Springs, Miss., has been deferred until about June 7. R. H. Shoemaker, who will operate that station, expects to stop at the Chicago office for a day en route to Mississippi.

4b. FIRST IMPERIAL VALLEY CANTALOUPE IN CHICAGO:

Too late for classification ( - as the newspaper man would say), the following letter was received at 4 P.M. from W. H. Hall, of the Chicago office. It is dated May 28:

"The first car of Imperial Valley cantaloupes for the season arrived on the Chicago market today. It was an express car, made up of six or eight different lots, and about 50% each standards and ponys. The stock was generally ripe, with the appearance of having been picked almost full slip, and it was very well netted. Heretofore, the first few cars to arrive were quite green, only fairly well netted, and therefore poorly flavored. Early sales of today's arrivals were mostly \$12.00 for standards and \$10.00 for ponys, with only light demand, which was no doubt due in part to the presence of Mexican and Texas cantaloupes on the market. As this latter stock all along has been of poor quality, the trade has 'backed up' on cantaloupes, so to speak. Much lower prices are expected within the next few days, as several cars are said to be on their way to Chicago and receipts will increase steadily until the peak is reached."

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 23

June 7, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

NEW AUCTION COMPANY STARTED.

Operation of the National Auction Company, started in Pittsburgh this week, is described in the following letter of June 4 from J. K. Boyd:

"Dave Kellerman's auction, under the name of 'National Auction Company, Inc.' was launched in Pittsburgh today. The sale started at 1 o'clock and was well attended by local buyers and representatives of Chicago, Philadelphia and New York houses. Twenty-seven cars of cantaloupes were sold, all rollers, the shipping dates ranging from May 29 to June 3. These cars all carried Government-State inspection, a description of contents being printed in the auction catalogue. Terms of sale are also stated in the catalogue, a copy of which I am sending to you. Only standards are sold, the prices of Jumbos, Ponys, and Flats being in proportion to the prices obtained for standards, Jumbos bringing 25¢ per crate more and Ponys 25% less than standards. Flats are sold in proportion of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 1. Only standard Flats are contained in these cars, my understanding being that they are packed twelve to fifteen melons. The prices which this stock brought at auction are noted on the catalogue. The sale time was about thirty minutes."

In the catalogue submitted by Mr. Boyd, the prices at which 25 cars sold range from \$3.35 to \$2.10 per standard crate. One car sold at each of the following rates: \$3.35, \$3.30, \$3.00, \$2.75, \$2.65, \$2.45 and \$2.40. Two cars sold at each of the following prices: \$2.35, \$2.15 and \$2.10; three cars at \$2.25; four cars at \$2.30 and five cars at \$2.20.

A specimen of the descriptions printed for each car follows:-

"Government-State inspection. Tight pack. Sizing fairly uniform. Quality and condition: Mature, well netted, firm. Mostly half slip, few full slip. Color: Green turning to yellow, mostly good green color. Minimum sugar content  $11\frac{1}{2}\%$ ." This particular car brought highest price - \$3.35.

The front page of the catalogue reads in part:-

Sold under the usual terms of sale as follows; also as posted in our salesrooms, Produce Terminal Bldg., Pittsburgh, Pa., and also subject to the terms of sales printed upon this or following pages of this catalogue.

Terms of Sale:

FIRST - Sales are made F. O. B. shipping point, acceptance on Government-State Inspections at loading point, cars are purchased as when and where, selling at buyer's risk.

SECOND - All sales are for cash, which is due at the time of sale, except as to those buyers whose credit has been previously approved by the Auction Company, upon written statement of their condition or other satisfactory evidence. (Continued over)

The approval or allowance of a buyer's credit is not to be regarded as an agreement to sell on credit, nor are sales to be regarded as sales on credit so as to conflict with the right of the Auction Company to demand and receive from such buyers at any time cash in full for their purchase, or a deposit in cash, and this right is hereby expressly reserved to the Auction Company as to all kinds of goods, and may be exercised by it in its discretion at any time and in all cases.

THIRD - Should any buyer or buyers fail to do or perform any obligation or thing which he or they may be required to do by the contract or terms under which the sales are made, the Auction Company shall have the right in its discretion, to sell for the account of the defaulting buyer or buyers, at any subsequent auction sale or sales conducted by it, and without advertisement or notice, the goods purchased by the defaulting buyer or buyers, and if any deficits result from such sale, the defaulting buyer or buyers agree to be responsible for such deficits and to make them good. The rights given by this clause do not abridge, but are in addition to, any and all other rights which the Auction Company may have,

FOURTH - Notice is hereby given by the Auction Company and the seller, and accepted by the buyer, that the Auction Company is the Agent of the seller with irrevocable authority to collect the whole proceeds of sale, and that the Auction Company has a substantial and valuable interest in the goods other than for commissions, and holds them and the proceeds hereof for advances made and to be made by the Auction Company thereon; and that any payment to the seller, or transaction concerning the goods with the seller or his Agent other than the Auction Company, are void as between the Auction

Company and the buyer, and the Auction Company's rights and claims against the buyer are not affected thereby.

FIFTH - No guarantee is given as to time of delivery or that cars will be delivered at all.

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READ PAGE 242  
for report on  
Texas Watermelons.



TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTSMarket News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
CHARLESTON, S.C.* Chamber of Commerce	858	J. D. Snow	Potatoes	May 21	June 14
MONETT, MO. 1st Nat'l. Bank Bldg.	857	W. J. Bertush	Berries	May 22	June 12
BRAWLEY, CALIF. Dunlack Hotel	808	C. E. Schultz V. D. Callanan	Cants.	May 28	July 12
BOWLING GREEN, KY. 434 Main St.	859	H. J. Clay	Berries	May 28	June 12
OCALA, FLA. Chamber of Commerce	832	J. D. Evers	W-Melons	May 29	June 16
FORT VALLEY, GA.	833	G.E. Prince	Peaches	June 5	July 10
ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.	810	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	June 7	June 25
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS.	809	R. H. Shoemaker	Tomatoes	June 7	June 30

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS	811	W. H. Mosier	Tomatoes	June 11	June 30
VALDOSTA, GA.	832	J. D. Evers	W-Melons	June 19	July 10

The following station closed on date indicated:

JUDSONIA, ARK. Bank of Judsonia Bldg	856	W. H. Mosier	Berries	May 8	<u>CLOSED</u> June 2
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\* No mimeographed reports issued at Charleston.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE
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1b. NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR SECURING SHIPMENT REPORTS:

During the past few months, F. M. Patton has been visiting railroad superintendents for the purpose of introducing as widely as possible a new system of daily telegraphic reports of shipments of fruits and vegetables.

Briefly, the new plan is as follows: Instead of division superintendents wiring the Washington office each night a report of movement from their respective territories, they are being asked to render these reports to their general superintendents. The general superintendent's office combines the several divisional reports and sends a single wire to Washington, giving totals by commodities and by States. A confirmation tabulation, mailed daily to Washington, shows details by divisions. In this way, we still receive all the information previously received but, by reducing the number of telegrams from each road each day, it is expected that possibly \$10,000 per year will be saved in telegraphic tolls.

The following tabulation shows the number of daily reports required under the old system, compared with the number of reporters under the new plan so far as arrangements have been completed. Mr. Patton has not yet had opportunity to visit all of the railroads.

Name of Railroad.	Number of Reporters:	
	Old Plan.	New Plan.
Atlantic Coast Line.....	12	3
Baltimore & Ohio .....	14	1
Boston & Maine .....	8	1
Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh .....	2	1
Central of Georgia .....	5	1
Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis	8	1
Erie .....	10	1
Florida East Coast .....	3	1
Louisville & Nashville .....	16	1
Michigan Central .....	5	1
Missouri, Kansas & Texas .....	8	1
Missouri Pacific .....	12	1
New York Central .....	20	2
New York, New Haven & Hartford .....	10	1
Pennsylvania .....	43	4
Southern .....	23	2
Wabash .....	7	1
Totals .....	206	24

The new arrangement does not affect the special shipment reports to field stations of the Market News Service. It does, however, delay for a few days the checking of the field station reports on the basis of railroad divisions, because the divisional data are now received in Washington from the railroads by mail instead of by wire. Field men should bear this in mind and not expect immediate checking of their shipment reports.



2b. WATERMELON SITUATION AT OCALA, FLA.

On May 30, J. D. Evers wrote as follows concerning conditions in the watermelon district around Ocala:

"Regarding the situation at Ocala, local factors state that conditions are the worst they have experienced for fifteen years. Heavy rains ever since May 14 have just played havoc with the crop and have brought about excellent conditions for the breeding of the aphids. Conservative estimates have placed the reduction of the yield 55%-65% of normal production throughout the Ocala and Leesburg sections. This means that there is only one car to 20 acres compared with one car to 3½ acres last season. Large melons are very scarce, while many of the small melons are spotted and of generally poor quality.

"So far, we have not been able to secure any market quotations by radio, owing to the heavy static. It would be unfair to make any statement as to just how much success will be had at this point until a further trial is given."

3b. STRAWBERRY SALES IN NORTH CAROLINA:

While operating the field station at Chadbourn, N. C., this season, J. D. Snow wrote the following letter regarding the carlot market:

"I believe it impossible to quote a carlot market here. The berries are hauled from the surrounding towns and from Chadbourn and are bid on by brokers, shippers, speculators and others. The grower is given a check for his load and the car is loaded by the broker or shipper. The berries in the car may range in price from \$4.50 to 6.50 per crate. Every evening the cars are averaged at the bank; by that I mean the cost of the car is figured. An occasional sale may be made by a broker at the price the car cost plus brokerage, but practically all the cars are shipped joint-account or are shipped on commission; The shipper, of course, owns the car, as the grower has been paid cash for the berries.

"On most days there is about \$1 range in the averages of the various cars loaded. I get a list of practically every load sold under the berry shed, with the number of crates and price, and I find that the price at which most of the sales are quoted fairly represents the range in the carlot averages, but the carlot average does not represent a sales price."

4b. SATURDAY HALF-HOLIDAYS BEGIN JUNE 16.

Commencing Saturday, June 16, and continuing for three months, the official day's work each Saturday will consist of four hours, and employees may be excused at 1 o'clock. All market stations are requested to expedite their Saturday reports as much as possible. Telegraph operators should be held until all messages to Washington have been sent.

B. C. Boree,  
Investigator in Market Surveys.

FOOD INSPECTION SERVICE1c. MATURITY OF CANTALOUPE.

In response to a letter of inquiry, Mr. Butner has written the following regarding the maturity tests for cantaloupes now being used in California. In making maturity statements on receiving-point certificates, the "slip," "netting" and "ground color" should be stated, but the term "immature" should be used only in extreme cases. Extracts from Mr. Butner's letter are quoted below:-

"Replying to your inquiry relative to the maturity standard for cantaloupes, I wish to advise that the meeting of cantaloupe shippers held at El Centro, May 11, 1923, adopted a ruling in accordance with Section 4 of the Fruit and Vegetable Standardization Act as follows:

"Cantaloupes shall be considered mature when the juice of the edible portion of the cantaloupes contains not less than 9% soluble solids as determined by the Brix hydrometer. Cantaloupes shall be considered unfit for shipment when soft or overripe."

"This standard will eliminate the element of personal opinion which has entered into the inspection of cantaloupes heretofore with regard to maturity, and I believe will make the shipping-point inspection certificates more valuable. Heretofore, the inspector had no means of proving that the cantaloupes were mature when it was so stated on the certificate, but now, when it can be definitely stated that the minimum sugar content is 11% or possibly 13% or more, there can be no doubt as to the maturity in accordance with the standard which has been adopted."

2c. CHARLESTON SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION OF POTATOES.

Mr. Bier is supervising a force of 18 inspectors in the Charleston district. Inspections are being made at the Atlantic Coast Line and Southern docks at Charleston, Yorges Island docks, Meggett, Beaufort, and St. Andrews. Practically all of the cars shipped by the Southern Produce Association and the Atlantic Coast Distributors are being inspected. The American Fruit Growers are having all potatoes grown on their own farms inspected but are marketing for a few other parties at different points, these potatoes not being inspected. As a general thing, it can be counted on that all of their blue-hooped barrels, shipped under the Blue Goose label, have been inspected.

The defects found at shipping point consist of fork cuts and other mechanical injuries, and second growth. Very little scab is apparent. The recent rains have caused some decay, principally Slimy Soft Rot following cuts and bruises. Brown Rot or Southern Bacterial Wilt is found in some of the newer fields and is very difficult to detect at shipping point. In general, it has been found that any potato which shows a rather deep depression at the stem end is affected with Brown Rot. Late Blight has been found to a slight degree in few fields.

Inspectors should watch for all of these defects and particularly for Sunscald. This is very difficult to detect at shipping point, especially if potatoes are delivered the same day in which they are dug. Packages are generally being well filled, but some shippers deliver barrels which are scarcely level full.

Car cards with South Carolina potato grades are tacked in each car. Lists of the cars inspected each day are being mailed to New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, which are the principal markets. If you have any doubt as to whether a car has been inspected, you can obtain this information by wiring to any one of these markets or to the Washington office.



3c. STRAWBERRY INSPECTION WORK IN EAST TENNESSEE.

Just before leaving Cleveland, Tenn., on June 4, Mr. Conklin wrote an extensive report of his work to Mr. Samson, parts of which are quoted below:-

"The Association here is loading a car today, which will be the last one out for the season. They started May 15th, about a week late, on account of unfavorable weather and will have loaded a total of 28 cars. They expected to ship approximately 80 cars but the yield was badly cut down by continuous rainy weather during the picking season. Almost half of the crop was wasted by becoming overripe on the vines. The usual yield this season was around 50 crates to the acre instead of about 100 which they obtained last season. The entire shipments from Bradley County were 71 cars, 43 of them being shipped, under contract, by the Liquid Carbonic Co., which with an acreage of 700 makes the average yield for the county about 40 crates actually shipped per acre.

"I inspected all berries loaded by the Association, as they were unloaded on the platform, and classed them as No. 1 or No. 2, or rejected them. The Association previously had adopted the U. S. grades with the following changes: the minimum for U. S. No. 1 was raised to 1 inch diameter and U. S. No. 2 was given a minimum of  $3/4$  inch diameter. The growers required the pickers to make two grades in the field and then most of them partially resorted the berries in the shed. After the first two days, the stock was good enough so that the U. S. No. 1 grade was branded with the Association Hills-Heart Brand and the No. 2 with the Summit Brand. Starting May 21st, the loadings were heavy enough so that solid cars of each brand were shipped. This was continued until May 24th inclusive, when the continuous rains made it impossible for the growers to pick the berries at the right stage of maturity. From that time on, all berries were inspected and classed as 1's and 2's but no labels were used and the cars could not meet the U. S. grade on account of overripe berries.

"The growers endeavored to get the berries put up according to the grades and, had the season been at all favorable, all cars loaded would have met them. As it was, we loaded the best quality in East Tennessee.

"We had small opportunity to get comparative prices to show the value of grading, for only five cars of U. S. No. 1 and two of U. S. No. 2 were loaded. In all others it was necessary to load the two grades in the same car and thus not always get the selling benefit of the better grade. Information is not yet available as to prices received for all of the Association stock, but indications are that, up until May 25th when the poor stock began moving, the No. 1's will average net to the growers about \$2.25 per crate and the No. 2's about \$1.75 per crate. Until May 25th the Liquid Carbonic Co., the only other shipper from this point, netted \$1.68 per crate, on a total of 30 cars, which were ungraded but many of the berries from the same growers' patches as the Association's. Information as to averages at other points in East Tennessee is not available but will be in a few days. (Continued over)

"Shipping-point inspection on strawberries, unlike that for some other crops, must be a wagon inspection. It is necessary to have an inspector stationed at every loading point, where inspections are to be made. The quality and condition of loads varies so much that an inspector must see practically all of them in order to make an intelligent report. Most of our cars have contained berries from 50 to 75 different growers and this is the usual practice in East Tennessee. I find, from visiting other loading points, that most of the berries in this section are shipped on consignment and that, although the local shippers make a pretense of looking into one or two crates in every load, they accept them anyway.

"The Association directors and members are very well pleased with the results of the inspection and desire to have the service again next season. Associations and shippers at other points in the district, namely Sale Creek and Dayton, have expressed a desire for the service another season.

"The local shippers have, as yet, made practically no returns to the growers but reports are that they will average around 90¢; so the growers for the most part are dissatisfied and probably the Associations will have more members next season."

F. G. Robb,  
Specialist in Inspection.

#### OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Samson is on leave the last half of this week. He expects to return to his desk next Monday, June 11. Mr. Stillwell also is absent for a couple of days.

Having completed the inspection work in the vicinity of Ocala, Fla., C. W. Hauck will return to Washington, reaching here early next week. H. C. Miller, who has been associated with Mr. Hauck in this work, is now on leave at Rome, Ga. About the middle of June, he will go to Atlanta and relieve T.C. Curry, while the latter takes his vacation.

We are glad to report the return to the F. & V. Division of Albert E. Prugh. He came to the Washington office on June 1 and the next day proceeded to Elizabeth City, N. C., where he is operating the field station on potatoes. Mr. Prugh was originally appointed to the Market Surveys project in February, 1916. He became a Market Station Assistant in the fall of that year and opened the Kansas City office of the Market News Service. Subsequently, he rendered service in the field, assisting especially with investigations in the marketing of peanuts. From April, 1917, to January, 1920, he was on furlough for service in the Supply Corps of the Navy, and after his discharge returned to his home in Ohio, where he has since been engaged in farming.

Within a few days, F. M. Patton expects to start on a western trip of perhaps two weeks' duration. He probably will visit railroad officials in Louisville, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Springfield (Mo.), Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Detroit, Cleveland and Pittsburgh.



OFFICE NOTES (Continued)

Another former employee of the F. & V. Division to be reinstated is Paul M. Williams. Since his resignation in November, 1921, Mr. Williams has been engaged in the produce brokerage business at Hutchinson, Kans. He is expected to report for duty in Washington about June 15, and will undertake investigations connected with the establishment of additional grades for peanuts. It will be remembered that Mr. Williams was on the Market News staff from May, 1918, and that he operated various temporary field stations, as well as the office at Fargo, N. Dak. For the last two years of his previous appointment he was interested especially in peanuts, operating the field station at Suffolk, Va., and subsequently traveling throughout the peanut-producing sections for the purpose of securing data on the basis of which to prepare the present grades for shelled Spanish peanuts. He also wrote a large part of the text of the pending bulletin on the marketing of peanuts.

Neal D. Sanborn, of Colorado, has been appointed as an Assistant Marketing Specialist (F. & V.) and has reported for duty in Chicago, where he will take the Inspector's training. Mr. Sanborn was graduated from the Colorado School of Agriculture in 1917. During the next two years he attended the Colorado Agricultural College. He has had much experience on vegetable and fruit farms in Colorado and, since October 1921, has been employed as an inspector by the State Division of Marketing.

Wm. E. Lewis reported for duty in Washington on Monday and will handle the local inspection work. F. M. Lyle is expected to leave for New York at the end of this week. From that point he will be accompanied by A. E. Mercker, of the New York office, who will assist Mr. Lyle in establishing the new inspection station at New Haven, Conn.

Since the discontinuance of strawberry inspections at Cleveland, Tenn., E. E. Conklin, Jr., has gone to Atlanta, Ga. He expects to leave that city tonight for Fort Valley to investigate the possibility of shipping-point inspection of peaches in central Georgia.

R. C. Rose, of the Cincinnati inspection office, starts on his annual leave June 8. His work will be handled by J. H. Hoover, of the Chicago staff. R. H. Lamb, in charge of Market News work in Cincinnati, also will be on vacation June 11 - 28. He can be reached at Randolph Center, Vermont. The office force will handle the market reports in Mr. Lamb's absence.

From June 7 to 23, G. B. Fiske, of the Washington staff, will be on leave in New England. He can be reached through General Delivery, Boston.

S. F. Shreve, Inspector in Baltimore, will take leave the first four days of next week. His work will be handled by W. E. Harrison.

The vacation of H. S. Stiles, of the Chicago Market News office, was postponed until June 4, instead of starting May 21, as previously announced. He will be at Lynn, Mass., until June 20.



5b. TEXAS WATERMELON SITUATION.

(Confidential)

The following telegram has just been received from J. A. Hunter, of the Austin office. It was submitted with other material for use in compiling a Federal estimate of watermelon production, originally planned for release about June 8. The Federal estimate will not be released until June 18 or 20 and may not agree in detail with this report; therefore, this telegram must not be published. The information may be used informally in answering inquiries:

"WATERMELONS:- South of Mathis at Baylor, Odem, Edroy and Tynan approximately 600 acres, badly in need of rain. Plantings at Mathis, Sandia, Falfurrias originally 4,000 acres, cut 40% by cold spring. Present prospective movement 500-600 cars, starting June 15 - 18. Crop fully 30 days late. At present vines large, strong and well-fruited but must have rain this week to produce. Without moisture to Saturday expect movement not to exceed 150-200 cars. Earliness of Hempstead - Bellville deal will also have effect further curtailing shipments from Sandia section. Approximately 500 acres Atascosa County at Pleasanton, Cougran, Davis switch and Hindes. Expect movement 150 cars against 40 last year. Crop needs rain but at present in good condition. Floresville expects to roll 50 or 75 cars and Bee County, including Skidmore, Normanna and Pettus, 100-150 cars from 800-1,000 acres. Crop week to ten days late; condition fair. Poteet acreage increased 25%, totaling 500-600 acres in very good condition. Expect to roll 100-125 cars, commencing June 19, or about week late. Pearsall has 300 acres; Gardendale 50 acres. Probably not exceeding 150 cars altogether, though railroad estimates run nearly double. In Hempstead-Bellville-Cat Spring deal approximately 5,000 acres, mostly new fields. Hempstead acreage 600; Bellville 1,100-1,200; Cat Spring 650; Peters 1,800; Waller 500; Eagle Lake and points adjacent the remainder. Estimated movement: Belleville 500 cars; Cat Spring in excess 200; Peters 600; Hempstead 150-200; Waller 150-200, or probable total movement this deal around 2,000 cars. Crop here first class shape and should be fine quality unless rained out. Movement expected to commence July 1, but personally do not believe much shipping prior to 10th or 15th of that month. East Texas has only half crop prospects compared with last year, due to increased cotton plantings. Pickton, Winnsboro and Scroggins probably will roll total of 100 cars. First shipments July 6 to 10; brisk movement by July 20. Vines in excellent condition. Good rain there Saturday. Sulphur Springs movement estimated 200 cars, Naples 20, and total East Texas section probably not in excess of 350-400 cars. Lambert in Weatherford deal understood slightly increased estimates, placing probable movement at 100 cars. Total Weatherford section expected to roll 750-800 cars beginning middle to latter part of July. DeLeon expects 25 cars; Santo in Palo Pinto County 10, and Granbury possibly 800 cars against last year's 200. Conditions this section satisfactory. Movement latter part of July. Will supplement this wire before June 8 if changes occur. Light showers Austin this morning. If reaches deal south of San Antonio means big crop good-quality melons middle to latter part of this month."

4c. INSPECTORS, PLEASE NOTE:- New Cabbage circulars, which differ from the old ones only in references to paragraphs in the Handbook, will NOT be sent out at present as announced in Par. 2c of D.L. for May 31, it not being thought worth while to furnish the new circulars until general revision is made of the Handbook.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D.C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 24

June 14, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. A WORD ABOUT PROMOTIONS.

As the end of the fiscal year draws near, the Project and Division leaders always receive a number of letters on the subject of promotions. Repeatedly we receive definite requests that a certain clerk be promoted on July 1 or January 1, as the case may be. We have tried again and again to explain that these dates are no more significant than April 1 or October 1 or any other date, so far as statutory employees are concerned. Promotions on the statutory roll are made day by day and week by week, as fast as vacancies occur in the higher statutory salary groups. The order of promotion is determined by standing on the efficiency register but the date of a clerical promotion is entirely beyond our control.

Generally speaking, it now requires about three years for a first class clerk holding a fairly responsible position to pass through the \$1,200 grade, and prospective appointees should be so informed if they ask about the chance for promotion. Promotions are slightly more rapid from the lower grades.

Reclassification will not involve any immediate increase for most clerks who now receive \$1,200 plus the bonus.

Wells A. Sherman,  
Specialist in Charge,  
Fruit and Vegetable Division.

2a. WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR JUNE 2.

Employees of the Fruit and Vegetable Division will be particularly interested in the following material in Weather, Crops and Markets for June 2:

- Page 529 - Summary of the markets for week ending May 26.  
530 - Acreage, yield and production of Snap Beans, Cucumbers, Cantaloupes, and Tomatoes in early States, and of Strawberries in late States.  
534 - Florida Potato Prices Close Higher, - by Mr. Evers.  
539 - Weekly review, with special paragraph on cantaloupes; tables of carload shipments and f.o.b. prices.  
540 - Arrivals and prices of fruits and vegetables in city markets,  
- Missouri Strawberry Movement Greatly Delayed, - by Mr. Bertush.  
- South Carolina Potato Movement Active, - by Mr. Snow.  
541 - Revised forecast of acreage of tomatoes for manufacture.  
- Texas Onion Shipments Exceed 2,500 Cars, - by Mr. Callanan.  
- List of new publications issued.  
547 - Filler on Savoy cabbage.  
- Vegetable Seed Crop Acreage and Condition.  
550 - ~~A~~ffect of weather on various crops.

3a. FORECASTS OF PEACH AND APPLE CROPS.

On June 8, the Crop Reporting Board released the following forecasts on peaches and apples, based on June 1 condition:

PEACHES:					
Condition, as of June 1.			Total Production, expressed in nearest million bus.		
10-yr. Avg.	1922	1923	5-yr. Avg.	Final 1922	Forecast 1923
62.2	77.1	66.7	43,000,000	57,000,000	47,000,000
APPLES					
69.3	72.8	75.5	160,000,000	201,000,000	187,000,000

The commercial apple crop is forecast at 32,284,000 barrels, compared with 30,955,000 barrels in 1922. Detailed figures by States probably will appear in this week's issue of Weather, Crops and Markets.

4a. WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR JUNE 9.

Fruit and vegetable material in Weather, Crops and Markets for June 9 is as follows:-

- Page 553 - Summary of markets for the week ending June 2.  
 555 - Acreage of early and intermediate Irish potatoes.  
     - Asparagus Acreage Increasing in New Jersey.  
     - Louisiana Sugar Cane area and production of sugar and sirup.  
 563 - Weekly review, with special paragraph on watermelons; tables of shipments and f.o.b. prices.  
 564 - Arrivals and prices of leading products in city markets.  
     - Citrus Movement from Rio Grande Valley.  
     - Extending Shipping-Point Inspections, - by Mr. Sherman.  
     - Short Watermelon Crop in Florida, - by Mr. Evers.  
 565 - Imperial Valley Cantaloupes Now Rolling, - by Mr. Schultz.  
     - Western Potatoes in New York City, - by Mr. Stanton.  
     - Tennessee Strawberry Shipments Light, - by Mr. Bertush.\*  
 573 - Oriental Peanuts on Canadian Markets.  
     - List of new publications issued.  
 574 - Effect of weather on certain crops.

\*This article on western Tennessee berries was received during Mr. Froehlich's absence on a week's leave, and he is not sure whether Mr. Bertush or Mr. Prince submitted it from Ripley.

Inspectors, Please Note:-

NUMBER ASSIGNED TO NEW HAVEN OFFICE.

The number twenty-eight (28) is assigned to the New Haven office to designate that cars have been inspected there. Add this to the list given in Memorandum 52.

W.C.H.



TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTSMarket News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
BRAWLEY, CALIF. Dunlack Hotel	808	C. E. Schultz V. D. Callanan	Cants.	May 28	July 12
FORT VALLEY, GA. Citizens Bank Bldg.	833	G. E. Prince	Peaches	June 5	July 10
ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.	810	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	June 7	June 25
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS. Room 1, Howell Bldg.	809	R. H. Shoemaker	Tomatoes	June 7	June 30
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS	811	W. H. Mosier	Tomatoes	June 11	June 30
VALDOSTA, GA.	832	J. D. Evers	W-Melons	June 18	July 10

The following station probably will open on date indicated:

PHOENIX, ARIZ.	815	V. D. Callanan	Cants.	July 2	July 20
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The following stations closed on dates indicated:

CHARLESTON, S. C. * Chamber of Commerce	858	J. D. Snow	Potatoes	May 21	<u>Closed</u> June 13
MONETT, MO. 1st Nat'l. Bank Bldg.	857	W. J. Bertush	Berries	May 22	June 13
BOWLING GREEN, KY. 434 Main St.	859	H. J. Clay	Berries	May 26	June 9
OCALA, FLA. Chamber of Commerce	832	J. D. Evers	W-Melons	May 29	June 16

\* No mimeographed reports issued at Charleston.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE
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The reports on this and the following page were submitted by Mrs. L. B. Gerry, of the Spokane office, in the form of newspaper clippings:-

1b. CROP CONDITIONS IN YAKIMA AND KITTITAS COUNTIES, WASH.

Yakima, Wash., June 1, 1923.

A preliminary survey of the fruit and vegetable situation as it appears at the present time, made by W. L. Close, district horticultural inspector, places the prospective fruit tonnage at 16,460 cars, the cantaloupe and watermelon tonnage at 300 cars and the potato tonnage at 4,000 cars. The estimate, which covers Yakima and Kittitas counties, is as follows:

Apples . . . . .	11,500	Grapes . . . . .	75
Pears . . . . .	2,400	Apricots . . . . .	25
Peaches . . . . .	1,200	Mixed cars . . . . .	1,000
Plums and prunes . . . .	150	Cantaloupes and Melons . .	300
Cherries . . . . .	110	Potatoes . . . . .	4,000

"Apples have set well in all varieties with Jonathans, Romes and Delicious particularly heavy," said Mr. Close in commenting upon the fruit situation. "There has been some complaint about the set of Winesaps but we believe that variety should show average yields."

"Pears are showing up well and the prospects point to a considerable increase over last year. There is no doubt but that the quality will be superior to that of last year when so much of the fruit was russeted by frost. There will be very few frost marked pears this year."

"Peaches are looking fine. There has been partically no damage from aphids or cutworms and the crop is well advanced for this season of the year, and the harvest, we believe, will show an increase over last year."

"The set of prunes seems variable, with no tangible reason for the condition. Red spider last season may have something to do with the situation. In the face of the above facts, however, we believe there will be an increase over last year."

"There is a fine set of cherries in most localities. The frost damage was slight and in most cases the crop will be the best in years."

"There will be about the usual tonnage of grapes and apricots. Grapes will show some increase on account of new planting coming into bearing."

"The melon acreage has been decreased about 40 per cent and the shipments will show a corresponding decrease."

"There has been a considerable shrinkage in the potato acreage. This shrinkage would be natural after an unfavorable season like last year. There is a tendency toward later planting and also a shortening of the distance between hills in an effort to get away from hollow heart and rough potatoes. We believe this tendency will raise the quality standard and increase the percentage of U. S. No. 1."

"Growing conditions so far have been favorable. There have been no severe infestations of insects and diseases. Growers all over the district are paying particular attention to the codling moth sprays and the indications are that the crop will be one of exceptional size and quality."



2b. OREGON BROCCOLI MAY BE INCREASED.

Roseburg, Ore., May 25.

The farmers of the Umpqua Valley, Southern Oregon, stimulated by the success of this season's broccoli crop, are preparing to make a large increase in the acreage for next year.

Foster Butner, manager of the Umpqua Broccoli Exchange, has just returned from an extended trip covering various Eastern markets and reports the outlook very favorable for future business. The policy of the Exchange is to sell one firm exclusively in each market, except in such markets that are too small for a single firm to handle straight carlots, in which case cars are pooled among several dealers.

The estimate for the coming season is 500 to 600 cars, in comparison with 186 cars for the past season.

3b. APPLE SITUATION IN WENATCHEE DISTRICT, WASH.

Wenatchee, Wash., June 1.

No official estimate of the Wenatchee District apple crop will be made by District Inspector F. C. Nielsen until July 1. Past experience has proven that no accurate or reliable forecast can be made before that date, owing to the June drop which is much heavier some years than others. Heavy frosts occurred this year in some parts of the district just about blossom time and this caused a heavy drop of certain varieties soon afterwards.

This drop is still continuing, especially among the Winesaps. This variety has set very heavy nearly all over the district and promises a very much larger yield than last year. But in some orchards the apples are falling off after having attained considerable size. This tendency makes it difficult to estimate the size of the crop with any certainty.

During the month of June a complete survey of the entire district will be made and a crop forecast will be compiled.

4b. LETTUCE CROP IN WESTERN WASHINGTON.

Seattle, Wash., May 25.

The western Washington head lettuce crop is approximately two weeks ahead of last year and is therefore expected to enjoy a longer season. The large crop in the Puget Sound district, which is estimated at between 1,000 and 1,200 carloads, is the result of specializing rather than generalizing in western Washington farming. Five years ago, local head lettuce was a drug on the market, but outside shippers saw the possibilities and encouraged growers to increase the acreage. This was done and today local head lettuce is shipped under ice to eastern consuming points.

5b. WALLA WALLA VALLEY CROPS GOOD.

Walla Walla, Wash., June 1.

Prune and apple crops of the Walla Walla Valley are about three weeks ahead of last season and give promise of being the best in years. Recent rains have helped garden and orchard.



6b. TEXAS WATERMELON MARKET REPORTS.

Arrangements have been effected with J. A. Hunter, of the Austin office of the Texas Radio Market News Service, to issue mimeographed reports on watermelons, beginning about June 13. This special cooperative service will cover only the South Texas melon deal and probably will not run more than 10 days or two weeks.

Later in the month, the Fort Worth office will start issuing reports on watermelons for the benefit of growers and shippers in East Texas and North Texas. These arrangements will make it unnecessary to operate the usual field stations at Hempstead and Sulphur Springs this season.

7b. TOMATO SITUATION IN MISSISSIPPI.

In a letter of June 7, R. H. Shoemaker advised as follows concerning the tomato situation in the Crystal Springs section:-

"Due to the fact that there was a spell of cold, rainy weather during the growing season, the first clusters of tomatoes are very light and this is the reason for the light shipments during the early season. I think that there will be fairly heavy shipments on Tuesday (June 12); however, it will be Friday before they are again heavy, and after that the movement should be fairly active continuously. I am informed that the late clusters are heavier and uniform, not having been affected by the cold and rainy spells.

"Shippers here agreed, before the start of the season, to hold off shipping until a committee declared an opening day. However, due to the fact that it was felt that some parties would ship 'regardless,' they all decided again to have the FIRST car out of the section. As a result, shipments are going forward somewhat immature. I have been able to go into the cars and pick tomatoes out of any crates which, when cut, showed the seeds cut across. As you are aware, the tomatoes are not matured properly when this condition exists. I have done quite a bit of talking to the shippers, trying to get them to see that this early shipping is detrimental to the best interests of this section and believe that they will continue their efforts to hold off shipping another year. This is one of the reasons for their disastrous season last year. I do not believe, however, that the crop is being shipped so immature as it was last year."

8b. STRAWBERRY NEWS AT BOWLING GREEN, KY.

Mr. Clay emphasizes the importance of field men getting in touch with local newspapers, in order to increase the distribution of market reports. Even though most papers require copy too early in the day to permit inclusion of much information from city markets, it is possible to give them an interesting story on conditions at local shipping points and in competing sections.

In his letter, Mr. Clay states further: "In small towns where most of our field stations are located, what the growers who read the papers are really interested in, after all, is the range of prices at which goods are sold locally, so that they can know whether the price which they received was representative. Or, in cases where an association handles the shipments, as in the Bowling Green territory, they are interested to know just what the range in selling prices was, together with a brief statement on the condition of the stock. That and the shipment news is of special importance to readers in such sections as this."

While operating the field station at Bowling Green, Ky., he arranged to give the "News" and the "Times-Journal" each a daily one-page story on the strawberry situation.



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK MAY 28-JUNE 2, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted & Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Philadelphia-Misc.	1:36	1:56	20	10	4,140	330
New York - Misc. R	1:35	2:05	30	9	4,428	325
Washington- Misc.	1:05	2:00	55	8	1,750	--
Boston - Misc.	12:25	2:00	95	8	2,240	300
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Chicago - Misc.	12:52	1:15	23	10	4,800	500
St. Louis- Misc.	12:26	12:49	23	8	1,900	225
Pittsburgh- Misc.	11:17	11:42	25	8	1,497	49
Cincinnati- Misc. S	1:50	2:19	29	8	3,760	650
Kansas City-Misc.	12:14	12:45	31	8	3,850	120
Minneapolis- Misc.	12:56	1:30	34	10	7,570	110
Washington-(Nat'l) FGMRSV, P'nuts, Honey, Ship. Inf.	62				23,457	1,018
TOTAL	12:50#	1:26#	36#	149	59,392	3,627
" previous week	1:01#	1:37#	36#	181	71,077	4,097

WESTERN OFFICE (May 21-26)

Los Angeles-Misc. LIR	2:59	4:03	64	17	14,726	--
" " previous week	3:26	4:17	51	17	14,732	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			4,669	2,198,932	110,609	

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK MAY 28-JUNE 2, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of .	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Brawley - G	1:30	2:34	2,950	590	--	--
Judsonia - S	2:21	3:19	2,842	493	--	1
Monett - S	2:39	3:57	2,688	510	54	--
Ocala - V	1:45	2:13	726	145	--	--
TOTAL	2:04#	3:01#	9,206			
" previous week	2:18#	3:38#	17,273			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			697,854			

# Average time.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 3,007,395.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK JUNE 4-9, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted & Delivered

## EASTERN CIRCUIT

Philadelphia-Misc.	1:27	1:47	20	12	5,175	375
New York - Misc. R	1:29	1:56	27	10	5,587	341
Washington- Misc.	1:28	2:25	57	8	1,760	--
Boston - Misc.	12:11	2:00	109	10	2,800	300

## WESTERN CIRCUIT

Minneapolis-Misc. R	12:06	12:24	18	16	3,755	132
St. Louis - Misc.	12:28	12:46	18	13	2,405	375
Pittsburgh- Misc.	11:15	11:34	19	10	1,891	49
Cincinnati- Misc. S	1:36	2:04	28	8	4,720	650
Chicago - Misc.	12:54	1:23	29	13	6,000	750
Kansas City-Misc. Honey	11:53	12:22	29	10	6,580	125

Washington-(Nat'l) GNRSTV, P'nuts, Ship, Information 79 72,430 1,021

TOTAL 12:41# 1:16# 35# 189 73,103 4,118

" previous week 12:50# 1:26# 36# 149 59,392 3,627

## WESTERN OFFICE (May 28-June 2)

Los Angeles - Misc. LMR	3:37	4:31	54	12	10,787	--
" " previous week	2:59	4:03	64	17	14,726	--

TOTAL JAN. 1 to date 4,870 2,272,822 114,727

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS JUNE 4-9, INC. (REDUCED TO CENTRAL TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Brawley - G	2:30	3:06	4,450	742	26	--
Crystal Springs-T	1:20	2:05	645	160	--	--
Fort Valley - N	1:01	3:08	3,728	738	--	--
Monett - S	2:12	3:14	3,380	525	3	--
Ocala - V	1:49	2:23	1,326	197	36	--
TOTAL	1:46#	2:47#	13,529			
" previous week	2:04#	3:01#	9,206			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			711,383			

# Average Time.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1, 3,103,932



## = Food Products Inspection Service. =

## 1c. INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF MAY, 1923.

MARKETS	Total Fruits C/L & L.C.L.	Total Vege- tables C/L & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total same Month 1922	Inspec- tions for Car- riers	Declin- ed for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certifi- cate Copy Fees
Atlanta	6	17	23	16	3	0	\$ 88	\$ 2.50	\$ 2
Baltimore	17	34	51	102	3	0	180	12.50	2
Boston	12	109	121	96	36	12	464	5.00	7
Buffalo	38	47	85	80	32	6	316	20.00	8
Chicago	81	154	235	237	5	5	932	17.50	29
Cincinnati	14	44	58	69	1	2	232	-	3
Cleveland	58	92	150	193	61	1	568	17.50	37
Columbus	53	27	80	40	56	1	312	5.00	3
Denver	1	7	8	3	0	0	28	-	1
Detroit	165	80	245	228	137	5	836	57.50	54
Erie	1	2	3	-	0	0	12	-	-
Harrisburg	3	2	5	2	3	0	16	2.50	1
Indianapolis	25	21	46	39	15	0	144	25.00	2
Kansas City	28	61	89	81	17	1	324	12.50	4
Memphis	7	15	22	30	11	0	88	-	6
Milwaukee	54	18	72	60	47	0	272	10.00	12
Minneapolis	15	20	35	74	0	0	140	-	4
New Orleans	9	39	48	39	25	0	188	2.50	13
New York	132	291	423	483	138	268	1652	30.00	17
Norfolk	3	16	19	6	1	1	72	2.50	2
Omaha	14	4	18	23	4	1	72	-	-
Philadelphia	181	146	327	538	192	7	1128	75.00	36
Pittsburgh	83	170	253	705	89	14	988	10.00	23
St. Louis	31	86	117	132	41	2	444	15.00	41
Washington	11	45	56	40	13	1	224	-	13
Wilkes-Barre	4	13	17	17	1	8	64	7.50	3
Total	1046	1560	2606	3327 33	931	335	\$9784	\$330.00	\$323

## RECAPITULATION.

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections ....	1046	Inspection for Carriers 931
TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections.	1560	Declined for lack of time 335
Grand Total C/L and L.C.L. Inspections..	2606	Total Fees Assessed \$10,533.00
Decrease from May, 1922 .....	22%	

\* The total fees assessed include \$60.00 for inspection of mixed cars and \$36.00 in payment of inspection work done for the Munson Steamship Company.

## 2c. GIVE FULL REPORT ON BREAKAGE IN PEACH INSPECTIONS.

Officials of the Central of Georgia Railroad would like more detailed statements of the extent of shifting and breakage in our inspection reports of Georgia peaches. They state that frequently they are unable to arrive at any definite idea as to the amount of damage done because of lack of definite information regarding the number of packages broken or extent of shifting.- W.C.H.

3c. INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING MAY, 1923												
Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps	Total Number of Inspec- tions		ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS									
			Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		Total Quantity INSPECTED		Cuts made to comply with speci- fications		Items billed short- weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	445	16	444190	8352	21523	0	465713	8352	3001	129	45	52
NEW YORK	340	43	472557	208584	6418	389	478975	208973	1712	432	-	-
NORFOLK	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
PHILADELPHIA	446	29	275360	18666	11263	5	286623	18671	2204	314	0	-
SAN DIEGO	***	70	493844	24230	34343	67	528187	24297	194	0	569	0
SAN FRANCISCO	108	-	353419	-	4334	-	357753	-	64	-	0	-
SAN PEDRO	***	-	1274106	-	128686	-	1402792	-	350	-	0	-
TOTALS	1339	158	3313476	259832	206567	461	3520043	260293	7525	875	614	52

\*\*\* No record of number of inspections.

In addition to the above, the Boston office inspected and accepted 4 cars of potatoes at contractor's stores, subject to final inspection at the Navy Yard, and 3 cars were rejected.

Inspections made by the New York office for the U. S. Veterans' Hospital amounted to 12,740 lbs. passed in 2 inspections; and for the U. S. Health Hospitals 20,375 lbs. passed in 18 inspections.

No supply ships loaded at Norfolk this month.

Other items in addition to the above inspected at San Pedro were: 32,031 lbs. of butter accepted, 1,600 lbs. rejected; and 18,638 lbs. of bread accepted.

Fruits and vegetables inspected for the Laid-Up Fleet of the U. S. Shipping Board during the month of May are as follows:

At New York - 39,109 lbs.

At Norfolk - 63,559 lbs. inspected; 63,229 lbs. passed; 330 lbs. cut.

The New York office also inspected for the U. S. Lines 161,480 lbs. fruit, 347,159 lbs. vegetables, total - 508,639 lbs., 9,298 rejected; and for the Munson Line 20,130 lbs. fruits, 62,134 lbs. vegetables, total - 82,264 lbs., 52,804 lbs. rejected.



OFFICE NOTES:

During the first part of this week, Mr. Robb was in Chicago, getting acquainted with the new men in the Inspector's training class. He probably will return to Washington by Friday.

After his marriage to Miss Georgia Lee Ritchie at eight o'clock Saturday evening, Mr. Hackleman and his bride will spend some time at Knightstown, Ind., just east of Indianapolis. His period of leave is June 16 to July 3.

Samuel W. Russell, cooperative inspector at Harrisburg, Pa., since September, 1922, has now been given a cooperative appointment as Assistant Marketing Specialist in connection with market reporting work for the State of New Jersey. This severs his connection with the Pennsylvania staff. Mr. Russell has already reported for duty in New York City, and will visit the early morning markets in the metropolis and Newark, N.J., securing information of interest to the New Jersey Bureau of Markets and the Federal Bureau. This is the work formerly handled by Rogers Koops, who is now in Chicago, taking training as an Inspector. The Division Letter for Sept. 21, 1922, contained a statement of Mr. Russell's education and previous experience.

Next Sunday, H. A. Spilman will start on a week's trip to Wilmington, N. C., Charleston, S.C., and other points in those States, for the purpose of visiting package factories in connection with the enforcement of the U. S. Standard Container Act.

C. W. Hauck returned to the Washington office on Monday, after having spent five months in Florida, demonstrating the Federal grades for various products and assisting in shipping-point inspection work.

Shipping-point inspection of potatoes was completed at Charleston, S.C., on Saturday and at Beaufort on Wednesday. Mr. Bier probably will return to Washington at an early date, stopping at Wilmington, N. C., and other points en route. In a recent letter he reported that 1,000 cars of potatoes have already been inspected in that territory.

On the evening of June 5, J. J. Gardner, in charge of the Pittsburgh Inspection office, gave a talk before the Pittsburgh branch of the National League of Commission Merchants, describing the work in terminal markets and the inspection service at shipping points.

After six-months' cooperative work in California, R.C. Butner will start on his return trip to Chicago June 17 and resume his position as Supervising Inspector of the Central District. He will reach Chicago about the 21st of June.

(Over)

OFFICE NOTES (Continued)

W. H. Hall left Chicago last night for Anna, Ill., on account of the serious illness of a sister. W. J. Bertush, who recently operated the field station at Monett, Mo., has returned to Chicago and is in charge of the market reporting work during Mr. Hall's absence.

H. J. Clay is expected to reach Washington by Friday. Since the closing of the field station at Bowling Green, Ky., he has spent a day in the Cincinnati office and a day in Pittsburgh, conferring with our reporters.

The Charleston, S. C., field station has been closed for this season and J. D. Snow will soon return to Washington. After a short period in the local office, he will take some annual leave, be married, and proceed to Denver, to open a permanent market station in that city.

F. H. Scruggs, of the Philadelphia Market News office, visited in Washington on Monday. He was here to receive a degree from Georgetown University.

W. H. Stanton, now with the Bureau Section of Audits and Accounts, reports the arrival of a son in his home on Friday, June 8.

The residence address and phone number of O. D. Miller, now in charge of New York Market News office, are: 34 Oakview Avenue, Maplewood, N.J.; phone South Orange 288-M. Please insert this on your list of Market Stations.

H. S. Yohe, in charge of the Administration of the U.S. Warehouse Act, spent June 4 and 5 in St. Louis, and made his headquarters in our Market News office.

W. H. Mosier, who is operating the field station on tomatoes at Jacksonville, Texas, reports that local factors have contributed funds to help defray the expenses of that office during the next two weeks.

A message by radio regarding onion shipments was received this morning from H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, via San Diego. It has not yet been ascertained just how arrangements were made to handle it in this manner.

The address of the NEW HAVEN inspection office is 301 Post Office Bldg., and F. M. Lyle is temporarily in charge.

Mrs. Dorothy Kindred Dick, who has rendered effective service as the clerical assistant in the Greeley, Colo., office of the Market News Service during the past five seasons, has been given an appointment in Washington and is expected to report for duty on June 15. She will handle work in Mr. Fiske's section formerly handled by Mrs. Ireland.

Mrs. Doris Ireland will leave for Portland, Oregon, this Saturday to become Mr. Ringer's assistant in that city. She has been helping in the Chicago office for the past two weeks. Miss Bertha M. Kanterowitz has been transferred from the Veterans' Bureau to take the place of Mrs. Showalter, resigned, as a clerk in Chicago.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 25.

June 21, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. NEW LETTERS OF AUTHORIZATION.

New Letters of Authorization, effective July 1, will differ from those heretofore issued in that each will be in general terms, authorizing travel and station expenses to any point in the United States under any available appropriation of the Bureau for any purpose whatever consistent with Bureau appropriations, with subsistence of either actual expenses or per diem in lieu thereof. However, as no funds are provided under such general letters, a Letter of Allotment also will be furnished, which will set up a certain amount of money that may be expended for a specified purpose under the Letter of Authorization by the person to whom issued, and in some cases by his assistants, will indicate the rate of subsistence which will govern, and will specify any limitations of travel or of expenditures. Attention is called to the fact that it is only when the cost of travel may be reduced thereby that the use of personally-owned automobiles is authorized in these letters. Authority for the use of personally-owned automobiles under other conditions requires a special provision as heretofore.

Each person to whom a Letter of Authorization and a Letter of Allotment are issued will be held responsible for governing his expenditures by the provisions of such letters and must not exceed the amount allotted, without securing an additional allotment. Neither may unusual expenditures be made at stations without the sanction of the Washington office as at present. A memorandum explaining in detail the changes in procedure which will be involved probably will accompany each Letter of Authorization sent out at the beginning of the fiscal year. With a view to enabling the Bureau and the various divisions and projects to keep closer check on expenditures to any date, it will be necessary for each responsible person to make certain notations on vouchers, which will be explained in the memorandum referred to above. The amounts allotted have been calculated on the basis of being sufficient to cover approximately the expenditures for the entire fiscal year and in some cases are considerably in excess of amounts allotted on July 1 in past years.

Transportation Requests will be forwarded for use after July 1. On that date all unused Transportation Requests for the present fiscal year should be returned immediately to Washington, as they will be void after June 30. Partially-used scrip books may be retained. Vouchers covering any unpaid bills on June 30 should be submitted promptly.

2a. STRAWBERRIES FROM IMPERIAL VALLEY.

The following article was published in "The Brawley News" for June 8, and indicates the possibilities of strawberry production in the Imperial Valley of California:-

That indications point to the shipment of 100 cars of strawberries next season from the Imperial Valley, if the market will absorb them, is the prediction made today by Tom Elliott, traveling agent of the American Railway Express Company. Mr. Elliott bases his figures on the acreage now growing, two-thirds of which is in the vicinity of Brawley. \*\*\* (Continued over)



Pre-cooling of strawberries is assured through the plans laid by the Imperial Ice and Development Company to construct storage rooms at Brawley, where two cars may be cooled at once. This is expected to add materially to the keeping qualities of the strawberries, which, picked in an exceptionally dry climate, have already proved to be exceptionally good carriers, he says.

Mr. Elliott has been conducting experimental shipments partly to try out a new crate, containing twelve baskets, instead of the customary fifteen, with a partition through the center to add strength. The crates now in use sag in the middle, he says, tending to cause bruises of the berries.

He recently summed up some of his experiences in the handling of strawberries in the following address to the Industrial Association of the Imperial Valley:

"Herewith find report of the condition of strawberries which we forwarded in experimental l. c. l. shipments to Ashland, Portland, Spokane and Seattle.

"You will note as a whole that the berries arrived at the various destinations soft and leaking, showing considerable shrinkage. It is very evident, as we were aware at the time, that the berries were too ripe for shipment to far-distant markets.

"Regardless of their soft and leaky condition, the berries showed no evidence of mold or whiskers. This indicates that we produce a berry with very good carrying qualities. If the Valley berries are properly picked, packed and inspected for long-distance shipments, I predict, when shipped in carload lots under refrigeration, that they can be successfully marketed in all cities west of Denver and as far north as Calgary and Vancouver. In the past, Calgary and Vancouver have proved to be good markets for California strawberries.

"I also wish to call your attention to favorable remarks regarding the twelve-basket berry containers with a partition in the middle, which greatly strengthens the crate and protects the fruit from any direct pressure above. In this connection our general agent at Spokane says that the crate could have been shipped to New York without damage. This container is a step in the right direction, as all effort in the past has been directed toward improving the berry rather than the container.

"This year's berry season is closed but I venture to say some growers will again show earnings of \$2,000 per acre f. o. b. Brawley. However, the crisis of the strawberry industry in the Imperial Valley is still before us. With a million and a quarter strawberry plants set out in the Valley during the past winter and spring months, the growers cannot expect to market their berries at a profit other than through a cooperative association.

"I strongly recommend and will urge during the coming winter months the formation of a cooperative organization to handle the entire output of strawberries from the Valley.

"With favorable conditions and proper care of plants during the summer months, 100 cars of berries from the Valley next year is a conservative estimate. The future success of the strawberry industry lies in the berries being handled through a cooperative association, which, if properly handled, will result in a strict inspection, and the utmost care concerning the picking, handling and grading, disposition in loading, and intelligent distribution, and the adoption of a standard container.

"Our agent at Ashland says: 'The Brawley strawberries are the finest flavored berries ever received from California.'"



3a. WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR JUNE 16:

Employees of the Fruit and Vegetable Division will be particularly interested in the following material in Weather, Crops and Markets for June 16:

- Page 577: - Summary of markets for the week ending June 9.
- 578 -- Filler on South Carolina watermelon acreage.
- 579 - Summary of June 1 condition and forecast of production of apples, peaches, and pears.
- 580 - Acreage forecasts for intermediate and late cabbage, late tomatoes, cantaloupes and onions.
- Fillers on Norfolk cabbage and North Carolina cantaloupes.
- 581 - Relative condition of certain crops on June 1. Filler on damage to apple crop.
- 582 - Fillers on Southern potatoes, Southern tomatoes, early arrivals of watermelons, Mexican tomato inspections, broccoli inspections, South Carolina cucumber acreage; South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland potatoes.
- 583 - Estimated crop conditions on June 1, by States, for apples, peaches, pears, watermelons, cantaloupes, blackberries, and raspberries.
- Disposal of velvet beans in Florida.
- Fillers on acreage of onions in New Jersey and canning-house tomatoes in New Jersey and Maryland.
- 584 - Quantity and percentage of estimated bean production by States, showing the varieties grown in each State.
- Florida and California crop reports of June 1.
- Fillers on North Carolina lettuce acreage and early and late potato movements.
- 585 - Report on honeybees.
- Farm price comparisons.
- 586 - Estimated farm price of apples on May 15.
- Averages of prices received by producers, May 15, for cabbage, onions, beans, and peanuts.
- 587 - Estimated farm price of beans on May 15.
- Early potatoes in Virginia, Maryland and New Jersey.
- Filler on late potato supply.
- 588 - Estimated farm price of potatoes and sweet potatoes on June 1.
- Average of prices received by producers, June 1, for potatoes, sweet potatoes, and apples.
- 595 - List of new publications issued.
- 597 - Weekly review, with special paragraph on old potatoes.
- Tables of carload shipments and f.o.b. prices.
- 598 - Arrivals and prices of fruits and vegetables in city markets.
- Kentucky Strawberries Affected by Rain, -by Mr. Clay.
- Asparagus Marketing in Pennsylvania, -by Mr. Blanpied.
- Imperial Valley Cantaloupe Prospects Good, -by Mr. Schultz.
- North Carolina Potato Supply Limited, -by Mr. Prugh.
- New field station opened.
- 603 - Filler on watermelon acreage in Southwest Georgia.
- 606 - Effect of weather on certain crops.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTSMarket News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
BRAWLEY, CALIF. Dunlack Hotel	808	C. E. Schultz V. D. Callanan	Cants.	May 28	July 12
FORT VALLEY, GA.* Citizens Bank Bldg.	833	G. E. Prince	Peaches	June 5	July 10
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS. Room 1, Howell Bldg.	809	R. H. Shoemaker	Tomatoes	June 7	June 30
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS* 1st. Nat. Bank Bldg.	811	W. H. Mosier	Tomatoes	June 11	June 30
VALDOSTA, GA.* Hotel Valdes	832	J. D. Evers	W-Melons	June 20	July 10

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

MACON, GA.*	875	J. D. Evers	W-Melons	July 12	Aug. 11
KEARNEY, NEBR.*	930	Unassigned	Potatoes	July 12	Aug. 15
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.*	918	C. E. Schultz	Deciduous Fruits	July 15	Nov. 1

The following station closes on date indicated:

ELIZABETH CITY, N.C. Chamber of Commerce	610	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	June 7	<u>CLOSED</u> June 23 27
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\* State Department cooperating.



MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. MARKET STATION BULLETINS DESIRED.

Every market station issuing a daily miscellaneous report is requested to mail a good sample copy for a recent representative day to each of the following addresses:

Robert L. Ringer, 530 East 31st St., Portland, Oregon.

C. J. Hansen, P.O. Box 3324, Ferry Station, San Francisco, Calif.

T. C. Curry, 1714 Citizens & Southern Bank Bldg., Atlanta, Ga.

These bulletins will be of material assistance when those three cities start issuing market reports early in July.

2b. FIRST FIELD STATION SUMMARY.

The first field station summary for this season is that of the 1923 Florida White Potato Deal, by Mr. Evers. It was released from Washington on June 14, and copies can be secured from this office.

3b. FIELD MEN: SEND WASHINGTON SURPLUS SETS OF REPORTS AT END OF DEAL.

Requests from transportation agents and others occasionally come to the Washington office for extra copies of the report published at field stations. Usually these requests have to be filled by sending copies of the reports issued at Washington, as most field men send in but two copies of each day's report. The Washington bulletin, however, may not serve the needs of the inquirer, especially if he is interested in destination information.

Field men always keep a few extra copies of each day's report to fill late requests for back issues. At the close of the deal these have generally been thrown away. It is requested that, in the future, five or six complete sets be made up (if that many surplus copies are available), and be mailed to Washington for filing.

4b. GEORGIA PEACH SITUATION.

In a letter of June 17, G. E. Prince reports as follows concerning the Georgia peach crop:

"The peach movement is expected to be rather light until the first of next week, when Carmans and Hileys start moving. Seems that the varieties are going to overlap each other badly this season, and that the daily movement will be rather heavy at times.

"Very few of the early varieties were contracted, but it seems that around 60% of the crop has been contracted to date, with the largest factors in the deal being situated at Fort Valley. The estimate of carlot movement of early varieties made by the Georgia Fruit Exchange has been exceeded by about 100 cars, with a probable movement of another 100 cars. Dixie Queens, Arps and Early Rose are moving at present."

"THE MAN WHO GOES THROUGH LIFE HUNTING FOR A SOFT THING CAN FIND IT RIGHT UNDER HIS HAT."

- Better Business.

5b. FREIGHT RATE RELEASES.

From time to time, representatives at field stations have prepared for publication in their summaries, etc., tabulations showing freight rates from certain shipping points to the large markets. We were uncertain in the past as to the advisability of continuing this practice and had not arrived at any definite conclusion.

Although the compilation and publication of freight rates gives some interesting information to the shippers in the various producing sections, it really is not a part of our work, and it has now been definitely decided that it should be discontinued. In the future, therefore, field men should not publish any freight-rate tables. This stand is taken because it is not always possible to get correct figures; also because any published tariff is subject to change and sometimes is changed upon short notice. Furthermore, special tariffs are sometimes put into effect for a specific period or a specific territory, which may not come to the attention of other sections not affected.

Even though the publication of a disclaimer clause with these freight rates may technically relieve the Government of responsibility for their publication, nevertheless an error carried in them might be the cause of misleading people in their dealings with the railroads.

E. W. STILLWELL,  
Specialist in Market News  
(Fruits and Vegetables)

FARMERS' BULLETIN NO. 1316, "Marketing the Early Potato Crop," has just come from the press. This is the first of the series of commodity bulletins on which Mr. Fiske is working. If your office does not receive a copy within the next week or two, you can request same from Washington. A second bulletin on "Selling Main-Crop Potatoes" is now in press.

CORRECTION: On page 251 of the last Division Letter, 6 inspections should have been reported opposite Norfolk for the month of May, 1922, making the total of that column 3,333 instead of 3,327.



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK JUNE 11-16, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Philadelphia- Misc. R	1:28	1:44	16	13	7,485	355
New York - Misc. GNR	1:49	2:27	38	20	6,082	364
Washington - Misc.	1:22	2:26	64	10	2,250	--
Boston - Misc.	12:11	1:51	100	11	2,800	150
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Minneapolis- Misc. R	11:55	12:13	18	18	2,900	132
St. Louis - Misc.	12:21	12:42	21	10	2,425	--
Chicago - Misc.	12:31	12:55	24	15	6,000	1,000
Pittsburgh- Misc.	11:23	11:48	25	10	1,899	49
Kansas City- Misc. Hon.	11:35	12:04	29	10	6,565	--
Cincinnati - Misc. S	1:33	2:03	30	10	4,619	650
Washington - (Nat'l) GNRSTV, P'Nuts, Honey, Ship, Inf.	84				33,920	1,031
TOTAL	12:37#	1:13#	36#	211	76,945	3,731
" previous week	12:41#	1:16#	35#	189	73,103	4,118

## WESTERN OFFICE (June 4-9)

Los Angeles- Misc. MR	3:08	4:05	57	12	10,127	--
" " previous week	3:37	4:31	54	12	10,787	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				5,093	2,359,894	118,458

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK JUNE 11-16, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
° Bowling Green - S		2:22	4:00	4,807	535	--	--
. Brawley - G		2:32	3:05	4,680	780	5	--
Crystal Springs- T		1:58	2:33	1,470	190	19	--
* Elizabeth City - R		1:44	4:48	9,481	908	--	--
Fort Valley - N		12:22	2:55	2,797	466	--	37
Jacksonville - T		2:25	3:11	2,110	278	--	--
Monett - S		1:27	3:10	1,145	540	3	--
Ocala - V		1:50	2:21	1,489	220	12	--
TOTAL		1:46#	3:15#	27,979			
" previous week		1:46#	2:47#	13,529			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				739,362			

# Average Time.

° Includes reports from May 28-June 9, inc.

\* " " " June 6-16, inc.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 -3,217,714.

FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE
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1c. PURCHASE OF SCRIP BOOKS.

All branch offices are advised that it will be satisfactory for them to purchase scrip books for the performance of any travel between now and the end of the fiscal year. It should be understood, however, that such scrip books should not be purchased unless actual travel on the same is performed.

2c. NEW FORM FOR SUBMITTING STATEMENT OF SERVICES TO OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

A new form, F.P.I.-19, has been prepared for use of our branch offices which are making inspections at the request of the Navy or other Federal Departments. It is suggested that these be made out in triplicate, one copy being retained in the office and two being forwarded to Washington for use in connection with the submission of our accounts with the various departments.

In the case of the Laid-Up Fleet of the Shipping Board only one copy should be sent to Washington, the other going to the Shipping Board officer in charge at the point where the inspections are made.

3c. SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION OF PEACHES AT MACON AND FORT VALLEY.

Shipping-point inspection of peaches at Macon and around Fort Valley has been arranged by Mr. Conklin. It is likely that about four or five hundred cars will be inspected during this deal.

Exact information cannot yet be given as to the shippers who will use this service, but all cars inspected in receiving markets should be examined carefully for the usual marks of previous inspection.

F. G. ROBB,  
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Miss May Eldridge, of Mr. Fiske's section, was taken to a local hospital for an operation this morning and probably will be absent for a month. Mrs. Dorothy Dick, formerly of the Greeley office, arrived in Washington on Tuesday and is now assisting in Mr. Fiske's section.

While on 15 days' annual leave, beginning June 18, Miss Elsie Roberts' work in the St. Louis office of the Inspection Service, will be handled by Miss Aurelia Weaver, formerly with the Immigration Service.

The Illinois Legislature has just passed a new inspection law, providing cooperation with the Federal Department in shipping-point inspection work. Activities this year probably will be limited to apples and peaches. First inspections may be made at Alma and other points in the early apple section of southern Illinois. F. J. Baehler, of the Chicago staff, will likely represent the Government in this new work, beginning about July 5.



OFFICE NOTES. (Continued):

The early part of this week, Mr. Sherman left on a western trip. He was expected to reach Denver today, where he will confer with the Colorado Director of Markets and the State Board regarding shipping-point inspection work in that State during the coming season. He probably will go to Fort Collins, Colo., and then to Lincoln, Nebr., where he will endeavor to arrange for cooperative inspection of potatoes. On this trip, Mr. Sherman may also visit Minneapolis, Chicago and other cities in which Fruit and Vegetable offices are located.

Joseph G. Scott, of Maryland, has been appointed as an Assistant Marketing Specialist, and has reported for temporary duty in Washington. About July 1, he probably will go to Philadelphia to assist in the Market News work. Mr. Scott received his High School education at Princess Anne, Md. In 1918 he began a four-year course in Economics and Business Administration at the University of Maryland, and during that period also studied marketing and gardening subjects in the College of Agriculture. He received the B.S. degree in Economics in 1922. Mr. Scott has devoted some time to the study of journalism and news writing, and has had experience in the buying and inspection of fruits and vegetables for canning factories. Last summer he was a temporary assistant in the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries. More recently he has been employed by the Board of Education, Somerset County, Maryland.

Earl Wilson, who was given a cooperative appointment last October as Agent (District Supervising Inspector) and who has been stationed at Los Angeles, has been transferred to the Watsonville district in California, and after July 1 will be wholly on the State pay roll.

Herbert F. Larson, of California, has been appointed as Agent (Supervising Inspector) for cooperative work in southern California. His headquarters are in Room 285, Wholesale Terminal Bldg., Los Angeles, and he will supervise shipping-point inspections in various producing districts. Mr. Larson attended the University of Nebraska from 1914 to 1917, when he entered military service. He had taken an agricultural course, specializing in horticulture. During the war, he was commissioned as a First Lieutenant. Mr. Larson has had practical experience in farming; one year as horticultural inspector for the State of California, and two and a half years' experience in apple and shipping-point inspection work. He has been serving as a supervising inspector in southern California for some months.

Mr. Boree expects to leave Washington tonight on a ten-days' trip to the Market News offices in Philadelphia, New York and Boston.

After the return of R.C. Rose to the Cincinnati office early next week, J. H. Hoover, who has been substituting for him, will leave immediately for Topeka, Kans., where he will supervise the shipping-point inspection of Kaw Valley potatoes.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Arrangements are being made for cooperative inspection of cherries at Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin. This is a short deal but several hundred carloads of cherries may be handled, starting around July 2. Mr. Butner likely will represent the Government in this special service. He was due to reach Chicago today, from California.

R. L. Ringer reached Portland, Oregon, on June 9, and is now taking a period of leave before opening the Fruit and Vegetable office in that city.

F. M. Lyle advises that the correct address for the New Haven, Conn., office of the Inspection Service is 301 Federal Bldg. and that the telephone numbers are Colony 4030 and 4031. He has been kept busy since the opening of the office, especially with out-of-town inspections.

After spending a week in the Washington office, J. D. Snow has gone on leave to Boston and vicinity. A. E. Prugh will return to Washington upon the closing of the field station at Elizabeth City, N. C., at the end of this week.

Watermelon market reports for South Texas growers and shippers were begun yesterday by J. A. Hunter, of the Austin office, to be continued for about two weeks.

Because of the light crop of cantaloupes in Arizona, it has been decided not to operate a field station at Phoenix this season. Growers in that territory will be served from Brawley and later from Los Angeles, Calif. A daily wire, giving shipments and a few important markets, will be sent to some disinterested party (probably the Agricultural Statistician), who will post it where all interested persons may read it.

Mrs. L. B. Gerry, of the Spokane office, has been given an appointment as a Junior Marketing Specialist, effective July 1. She has been employed as a clerk in that office for nearly six years, and during part of each year is in sole charge of the work.

Paul M. Williams will report for duty in Kansas City on June 25, starting a trip from that point. He will confer with peanut growers, dealers and others, securing information on which to base regulations for the warehousing of peanuts under the U. S. Warehouse Act. He will also secure data for the preparation of official grades for farmers' stock. His itinerary will include the following points: Oklahoma City, Fort Worth, New Orleans, Montgomery, Atlanta, Malone, Fla., Allendale, S. C., Edenton, N. C., and Suffolk, Va.

Within a few days, F. M. Patton will leave on a short trip to Philadelphia, Scranton, New York and New Haven, visiting railroad officials in those cities.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 26.

June 28, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS EXPIRE JUNE 30.

Attention is called to the fact that all Government contracts, such as those covering purchase of equipment, miscellaneous supplies, automobile tires and tubes, expire June 30. Any purchases after June 30, which are required to be made in accordance with contracts awarded by the Government as a result of competitive bids, must be strictly in accordance with such new contracts. Persons operating official automobiles, therefore, are warned against the purchase of tires and tubes from any dealer who represents a firm which is not among those to which Government contracts, effective July 1, have been awarded.

2a. SYMBOL NUMBERS FOR VOUCHERS AND OTHER MONEY PAPERS.

Effective July 1, in accordance with a recent memorandum regarding Letters of Authorization and allotment and expenditures thereunder, all vouchers and other money papers submitted to the Accounting Section must show the symbol number of the project against which the item of expenditure is to be charged. For convenient reference, the symbol numbers assigned to the various projects of the Fruit and Vegetable Division are given below:

<u>Name of Project</u>	<u>Symbol Number</u>
Marketing Fruits and Vegetables .....	1302
Inspection of Fruits and Vegetables .....	1601
Market News Service on Fruits and Vegetables .....	1702
Enforcement of the Standard Container Act .....	6500
Completion of the Work of the Domestic Wool Section	6600

3a. WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR JUNE 23:

Employees of the Fruit and Vegetable Division will be particularly interested in the following material in Weather, Crops and Markets for June 23:

- Page 609 - Summary of markets for the week ending June 16.  
613 - New Publications Issued.  
615 - Cold Storage Report for June 1 for apples.  
616 - Cold Storage Holdings on June 1, for apples and lemons.  
617 - Weekly review, with special paragraph on peaches.  
- Tables of carload shipments and f.o.b. prices.  
618 - Arrivals and prices of fruits and vegetables in city markets.  
- Florida Melon Crop May Not Exceed 3,000 Cars, - by Mr. Evers.  
- Good Potato Season in South Carolina, - by Mr. Snow.  
619 - Carload Shipments of Fruits and Vegetables during May, by States.  
- Filler on Imperial Valley cantaloupe shipments.  
620 - Mississippi Tomato Movement Reaches Peak, - by Mr. Shoemaker.  
- Carload shipments of citrus fruits for April.  
- Fillers on Imperial Valley cantaloupes.  
628 - Shipment of oranges by cooperative exchange in South Africa.  
629 - New Canadian Fruit Act. - (Page 265) -



4a. CHANGES IN FORM 33, "TABLE OF PACKAGES PER CARLOAD."

Under White Potatoes, on page 8 of Form F. & V.-33, change:

	<u>Range</u>	<u>Usual number</u>
Florida double-head barrels,	180-214	200
to read:		
Florida double-head barrels,	175-200	180

In addition to this change, a new copy of page 11 is being distributed with this Division Letter to each of the market and field stations and Inspection offices. Substitute this sheet for the one now in your Table of Packages Per Carload, and destroy the obsolete one. If more copies of the new page 11 are needed in any office, additional sheets should be requested of Washington.

5a. TO SOLVE CAR-SHORTAGE PROBLEMS.

As the season of heaviest production of fruits and vegetables is near and the annual bugaboo of car shortage is again raising its head, it will interest those concerned in the shipping of fruits and vegetables to know that the plan, recently adopted by the Car Service Division of the American Railway Association of forming committees of shippers to assist in anticipating the equipment needs of the country, is meeting with success. These Regional Advisory Boards, as they are called, formed of shippers, distributors and others interested in the car service needs of the different sections, have already been organized at Birmingham, Ala.; Kansas City, Mo.; Omaha, Nebr.; Dallas, Texas; St. Louis, Mo.; Toledo, Ohio, and Minneapolis, Minn., and others are being rapidly organized. The plan contemplates that the Boards will meet every sixty days and confer with the District Managers of the Association, advising them of the probable equipment needs of the regions for the succeeding sixty days. The surveys to ascertain these needs will be made by the Boards and will be in addition to and independent of the surveys made by the Association, and a reconciliation of the surveys should come as near to actual equipment needs as is humanly possible. The better service as well as saving in equipment, due to accurate distribution and placing, made possible by this plan, is evident to those who can visualize its possibilities.-(Item submitted by Mr. Patton)

OFFICE NOTES (Continued from Page 274):

W. L. Evans and H. V. DeMott, of the Domestic Wool Section, and J. S. Bohannon, of the Solicitor's Office, went to Albany, N.Y., a few days ago, where they are assisting in the trial of the case against S. E. Avery, a wool dealer who made excess profits on the 1918 clip. They probably will return to Washington this Friday.

J. W. Park, formerly of the Market News staff but now connected with the Seed Grain Loan office at Grand Forks, N. Dak., visited friends in the Washington office last Saturday, en route to Pennsylvania on his vacation.

A REMINDER: Next Wednesday is July 4 and therefore a holiday in all offices.



TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTSMarket News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
BRAWLEY, CALIF. Dunlack Hotel	808	V. D. Callanan	Cants.	May 28	July 12
FORT VALLEY, GA.* Citizens Bank Bldg.	833	G. E. Prince	Peaches	June 5	July 10
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS* 1st. Nat. Bank Bldg.	811	W. H. Mosier	Tomatoes	June 11	June 30
VALDOSTA, GA.* Hotel Valdes	832	J. D. Evers	W-Melons	June 20	July 10

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

MACON, GA.*	875	J. D. Evers	W-Melons	July 12	Aug. 11
KEARNEY, NEBR.*	930	Unassigned	Potatoes	July 12	Aug. 15
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.*	918	C. E. Schultz	Deciduous Fruits	July 16	Nov. 1

The following station closes on date indicated:

CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS. Room 1, Howell Bldg.	809	R. H. Shoemaker	Tomatoes	June 7	<u>CLOSED</u> June 29
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\* State Department cooperating.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

1b. SUMMARY OF WESTERN NEW YORK PEACH DEAL, SEASON OF 1922.

Under date of June 23, a summary was issued of the Western New York peach deal for 1922. This was prepared by C. L. Brown and contains very interesting and valuable data. Copies can be secured from Washington, if your office does not receive the desired number within a few days.

2b. MARKET REPORTS FROM CLEVELAND.

Conditions in Cleveland are such that regular daily market reports can not be secured by the Inspectors. Mr. Bish advises that he will report the market as frequently as time permits, but it is impossible to secure the reports every day with the present force. Part of his recent letter follows:-

"At the present rate at which inspection requests are received, I find it practically impossible to devote any time to the market news work. So far this week (June 11 - 14), there has been no let-up to our inspections. To the present time we have received 42 requests and have not missed a car as yet. Practically every week during the summer we receive long-distance calls from Akron or Lorain, asking that we make inspection at these markets, and in most instances it becomes very difficult to refuse their requests. Several of the large dealers in Akron have given us a great amount of business throughout the year and, when it is necessary to refuse their requests (especially at this season of the year), they are very much disappointed."

This explains why continuous market reports will not be available from Cleveland, at least during the summer months.

3b. AVERAGE PRICES OF POTATOES AT HASTINGS, FLA.

In a recent letter, J. D. Evers submitted the following interesting data on the prices of potatoes at Hastings, Fla., during the 1923 season. The editor has taken the liberty of changing a few figures in which there apparently were miscalculations. It will be observed also that these results are slightly different from those published in the Summary of the Hastings Deal, distributed 10 days ago. Mr. Evers' statement follows:-

<u>Grade.</u>	<u>Average Selling Price.</u>	<u>Average Grower's Price.</u>
No. 1 .....	\$6.81 .....	\$6.47
No. 2 .....	4.81 .....	4.57
No. 3 .....	2.06 .....	1.96
All .....	6.17 .....	5.86

The average selling price was secured by figuring the weighted f.o.b. price per barrel for No. 1's, using the shipments furnished by the Supt. of the F. E. C. Ry. and the prevailing daily f.o.b. price at Hastings from April 19 to May 24 inclusive. This is shown in more detail in the summary of the Hastings Potato Deal. No. 2 grade of potatoes sold throughout the season about \$2 less than No. 1's; so it is quite safe to assume that the average selling price of No. 2's at Hastings was \$4.81. Although quotations of No. 3 stock were not published, the selling price generally was around \$2.75 less than No. 2's.

The majority of the dealers sold on a commission basis of 5%, while one or two charged 30-35¢ per barrel. Deducting this 5% commission, we reach the grower's price of \$6.47 for No. 1's, \$4.57 for No. 2's, and \$1.96 for No. 3's.



From information given by the different factors in the deal, it was estimated that 72% of the crop consisted of No. 1 grade, 25% No. 2 grade, and approximately 3% No. 3's. Using these percentages, we arrive at the average selling price per barrel for all three grades combined:

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 72 \times \$6.81 & = & \$490.32 \\
 25 \times 4.81 & = & 120.25 \\
 3 \times 2.06 & = & 6.18 \\
 \hline
 & & \$616.75 \div 100 = \$6.17 \text{ selling price all grades.} \\
 .95 \times \$6.17 & = & \$5.86 \text{ grower's price all grades.}
 \end{array}$$

4b. NEW OFFICES TO BE OPENED IN JULY.

Though all details for the operation of new offices have not yet been worked out, the following tabulation gives some information not contained in the article published in the Division Letter of May 24:

City.	Office Address.	In Charge.	Opens.
<u>DENVER, COLORADO</u>	Room 24, Capitol Bldg.	J. D. Snow	July 23
A daily miscellaneous report will be issued at Denver, and special service may be given the lettuce industry. The Monte Vista and Greeley deals will be handled from Denver office.			
<u>SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH</u>	304 & 306 Capitol Bldg.	J. R. Duncan	July 16
Daily miscellaneous reports will be issued to a small mailing list, and a special service may be rendered on peaches.			
<u>SACRAMENTO, CALIF.</u>	Room 27, Mull Bldg.	C. E. Schultz	July 16
Until about November 1, reports will be issued in season on deciduous fruits - peaches, pears, plums, prunes, and grapes.			
<u>SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.</u>	65 Appraiser's Stores Building.	C. J. Hansen V. D. Callanan	July 16
At first, Mr. Hansen will handle the relaying of reports to Los Angeles and Portland. After the close of the Brawley deal, Mr. Callanan will proceed to San Francisco and probably assist Mr. Hansen in inaugurating a regular market news service (bulletins, etc.) in that city.			
<u>PORTLAND, OREGON</u>	Citizens' Bank Bldg.	R. L. Ringer	July 10
Daily miscellaneous reports will be issued throughout the year, with the possible addition of special reports in season for Seattle lettuce deal, Yakima potato and deciduous fruit deal, and special deals in the Walla Walla Section. Until the installation of the leased wire to San Francisco, brief telegraphic reports will be sent to Portland from Kansas City.			
<u>ATLANTA, GEORGIA.</u>	1717 Citizens & Southern Bank Bldg.	T. C. Curry	July 16
Daily miscellaneous reports will be issued throughout the year, and there may be some special reports for the benefit of producing sections not at present served by field stations. Decision as to the installation of the leased wire to Atlanta will not be reached until early July.			

E. W. STILLWELL,  
Specialist in Market News  
(Fruits and Vegetables)

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK JUNE 18-23, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Philadelphia-Misc. R	1:46	2:06	20	20	12,650	380
New York - Misc. GWR	1:24	1:47	23	20	6,080	379
Washington- Misc.	1:17	2:11	54	10	2,265	--
Boston- Misc.	12:32	2:06	94	10	3,025	150
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Chicago- Misc.	12:46	1:10	24	13	6,000	1,000
St. Louis- Misc.	12:09	12:33	24	10	2,530	225
Pittsburgh- Misc.	11:08	11:33	25	10	1,942	49
Cincinnati- Misc.	1:20	1:47	27	10	4,450	650
Kansas City- Misc.	12:42	1:09	27	10	4,850	125
Minneapolis- Misc. R	12:02	12:34	32	18	3,600	35
Washington-(Nat'l) GRTV, Ship. Inf. P'nuts				72	27,379	1,031
TOTAL	12:43#	1:18#	35#	203	74,771	4,024
" previous week	12:37#	1:13#	36#	211	76,945	3,731

## WESTERN OFFICE (June 11-16)

Los Angeles- Misc. R	3:03	4:03	60	11	8,985	--
" " previous week	3:08	4:05	57	12	10,127	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				5,307	2,443,650	122,482

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK JUNE 18-23, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Brawley - G	2:34	3:11	4,760	793	2	----
Crystal Springs-T	12:56	2:00	1,621	210	11	--
Elizabeth City- R	1:38	3:23	2,220	345	--	62
Fort Valley - N	12:03	2:54	3,226	538	16	--
Jacksonville- T	1:45	2:46	2,575	355	28	--
Valdosta- V	2:36	3:24	2,275	546	--	--
TOTAL	1:35#	2:56#	16,677			
" previous week	1:46#	3:15#	27,979			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			756,039			

# Average time.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 3,322,171.



FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE1c. CONDITION OF MISSISSIPPI TOMATOES.

In a letter of June 23, R. H. Shoemaker, who operated the field station at Crystal Springs, Miss., writes as follows:-

"This section has had considerable rain for the past ten days and next week's receipts should begin showing some waste. Crates held out from different cars loaded from this point on the 18th and 19th and examined the past two days show some decay. I believe it is a watery soft rot, from the looks of the mycelium. This stock will undoubtedly arrive, showing 15% or more decay, and stock shipped the past two days should show more than that in many cases. I was at Wesson and Beauregard yesterday and examined a few crates hauled in there, generally finding at least one tomato with small rot spots in each crate."

2c. GEORGIA PEACH INSPECTIONS.

Under date of June 25, E. E. Conklin, Jr., wrote the following letter from Fort Valley, Ga., concerning shipping-point work in that territory:

"The Georgia peach inspection work started today, with a corps of four local inspectors. Each of these four men started inspecting in one packing house and probably will remain so stationed. Each of these houses is loading one to two cars a day at present, and this will be increased to five or six cars during the busiest time. The houses are located as follows; Walden and Avondale run by Bateman Bros., and Fort Valley and Perry run by Green - Woolfolk. Peaches from the first two houses are marketed through the Federated Fruit and Vegetable Growers and the others by The American Fruit Growers. Each of these firms is also handling peaches which are not inspected.

"Hiley-Belles and Carmans are now moving. The Hileys are of generally good quality, but weather conditions have been quite unfavorable. Peaches are quite free of worms and, although Brown Rot does not seem to be general, it can be seen scatteringly in a great many orchards.

"We will probably inspect 400 to 500 cars."

3c. CERTIFICATE FORMS AFTER JULY 1:

It will be noted that the certificates in use at present are so worded that they can be used after July 1. The usual confusion in connection with distribution of certificates for use after July 1 of each year is thus obviated.

The supply of these certificates on hand in Washington is almost exhausted. There are, however, plenty in our different branch offices to meet the needs until the large supply recently ordered is received. It may be necessary to request some stations which have plenty of certificates to forward a few to other stations. If this is necessary, the office forwarding certificates should always inform Washington as to the numbers of the originals sent. This is important in order to keep our records straight. Any office receiving certificates from another office should return a receipt for the same, showing the numbers received.

4c. INSPECTOR'S IDENTIFICATION CARDS should be returned after June 30. New cards will be issued in a few days.

F. G. ROBB.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman has reached Minneapolis on his western trip, and today is interviewing an eligible at Duluth. He has decided to go to the Pacific Northwest and possibly to California, to confer with parties interested in shipping-point inspection work and to look into the opening of additional Market News offices in that territory.

This evening Mr. Samson expects to leave for Chicago and Minneapolis at which latter place he will meet Mr. Sherman and accompany him to the Northwest. Mr. Samson will interview growers, shippers and others regarding the inspection and standardization program of this Division.

F. S. Kinsey will leave Los Angeles this Friday and proceed to the State of Washington, where he will make preparations for the fall and winter inspection work in the Northwest. He will meet Mr. Sherman and Mr. Samson at Wenatchee next week, for conference on the season's program.

The death of Miss May M. Eldridge is announced with deep regret. She passed away in a local hospital last evening, following the operation mentioned in the last Division Letter. Burial will be at Brooklyn, N.Y., on Friday afternoon. Miss Eldridge was appointed to the Market News Service in October, 1917. For a year or more she assisted in the section handling mail reports of shipments, and about 1918 was transferred to Mr. Fiske's section, where she has rendered active and effective service. Much of the statistical work in Mr. Fiske's bulletins was performed by Miss Eldridge, and she was largely responsible for the radio reports, marketgrams, and part of the Tuesday review. She will be greatly missed from the Washington force.

Arrangements are being perfected for shipping-point inspection of peaches in North Carolina. Robert Bier expects to leave Washington on Sunday for Aberdeen and Southern Pines to look into the situation and to inaugurate this new service. His headquarters probably will be at Aberdeen, N.C., the next two weeks, as a great deal of the inspection work will be done in behalf of the Sandhill Fruit Growers' Association.

Some time next week, A. E. Mercker, of the New York inspection staff, will proceed to the Sandhill peach section of North Carolina, where he will assist Mr. Bier and later be in active charge of the local inspectors handling this shipping-point inspection work on peaches.

W. C. Hackleman is expected to return to New York about July 5, following his wedding trip. He will resume his position as Supervising Inspector of the Eastern District of the Inspection Service.

Miss Lucy Watt is quarantined for two weeks because of a case of contagious disease in the family with which she has been staying.



OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

J. J. Sullivan, of the New York inspection office, was married to Miss Harriet Waterman in New York at noon on Wednesday and the honeymoon is being spent in the Adirondacks. Congratulations are extended. Tuesday was Mr. Sullivan's last day of service in the Fruit and Vegetable Division, as he has tendered his resignation, effective July 5, to accept a position with the Federated Fruit and Vegetable Growers, with headquarters in the metropolis. It is understood that he will look after the interests of the Federated in New York and Newark. Mr. Sullivan was reinstated to the service as an Inspector in August, 1921, and has since been on the New York staff. Recently he has been handling inspections for the U. S. Lines and the Munson Line. His resignation is regretted, but our best wishes accompany him in his new line of work.

G. B. Fiske returned from his vacation on Monday, and is again pushing the work on the series of commodity bulletins.

Mr. Patton's section is working up statistics for a new bulletin on carlot shipments of fruits and vegetables, similar to Department Bulletin No. 667, covering shipments of the year 1916. The new volume will show the annual movement by commodities from every County and from each shipping station in the United States, originating 10 or more cars per year, for each of the six years, 1917 to 1922 inclusive. To assist in the compilation of these figures, the following clerks have been detailed temporarily to Mr. Patton's section: Mrs. Fessie Norr, from the clerical pool; Mrs. Lillian B. Kasehagen, from the Tabulating and Computing section; Mrs. Eva M. Berrey, from the Packers and Stockyards administration unit.

C. E. Schultz, in charge of the Brawley field station, will leave for Sacramento, Calif., about July 1, to arrange for the opening of the field station in that city. He will issue market reports on peaches, pears, plums and prunes, and grapes. V. D. Callanan will remain in charge at Brawley until the close of that station.

C. W. Hauck expects to leave Washington tonight for two weeks' vacation. His address will be 227 Calvin Blvd., Seymour, Indiana. He will stop at Columbus, Ohio, en route.

George A. DeHaven has been appointed from Iowa as a Junior Marketing Specialist. He reported for temporary duty in the Washington office of the Market News Service, before being given a definite assignment. Mr. DeHaven was graduated from the Lancaster, Pa., High School in 1918, and the following two years attended Franklin and Marshall College in that city. In 1920 he entered Iowa State College and recently received his B.S. degree in Horticulture. During vacation periods, Mr. DeHaven has assisted in orchard and greenhouse work and he is especially familiar with fruits.

About Sunday, J. R. Duncan will leave Chicago for Salt Lake City, where he will open the new office of the Market News and Inspection Services. See further announcement concerning new offices on another page of this Division Letter.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

W. H. Hall has resumed charge of the market reporting work in Chicago, after his recent trip to Anna, Ill., on account of the serious illness of his sister. We regret to report that the sister's death occurred just two hours after Mr. Hall's arrival in Anna.

The marriage of J. D. Snow to Miss Grace Kilpatrick, at Presque Isle, Maine, occurs today. Miss Kilpatrick was clerical assistant to Mr. Snow during the operation of the Presque Isle office the past winter. Congratulations and best wishes are extended.

The Crystal Springs field station will close this Friday, and R. H. Shoemaker will proceed to Fort Worth, where he will cooperate with Mr. Gooze in the issuance of reports on watermelons.

On Saturday of this week, the Fort Worth office will be moved from the Moore Building to Room 1912 F. & M. Building. (The F. & M. means Farmers and Mechanics.) Please use the new address in all correspondence and telegrams.

This week's Weather, Crops and Markets, to be dated June 30, probably will contain articles on Georgia peaches and East Texas tomatoes.

After having substituted for T. C. Curry, at Atlanta, H. C. Miller will come to Washington early next week, and then proceed to Orrick, Mo., where he will supervise the shipping-point inspection of potatoes. That special service may continue for three weeks.

Early in July, V. V. Westgate, of the Omaha office, will go to Kearney, Nebr., where he will be in charge of the shipping-point inspection work on potatoes from that district. This deal may last a month or six weeks.

C. H. Johnson, of the Chicago inspection staff, will leave for Omaha today and handle the work in that city during Mr. Westgate's absence.

Messrs. Butner and Baehler, of Chicago, went to Springfield, Ill., on Tuesday to confer with the Director of Agriculture, Mr. Davison, regarding work at Illinois shipping points under the new State inspection law. Mr. Baehler will supervise the local inspectors in southern Illinois.

Last Saturday, F. J. Baehler held a conference with the State cherry inspectors at Waupaca, Wis.. R. C. Butner will spend a few days at Sturgeon Bay, Wis., at the opening of the cherry season, to look after the details of the establishment of this shipping-point inspection work.

Herman Beckenstrater, of the Philadelphia office of the Inspection Service, began his period of annual leave on June 25.

A. E. Prugh found it advisable to continue issuing potato reports at Elizabeth City, N. C., until June 27, and that office was closed yesterday instead of last Saturday, as reported in the Division Letter for June 21. Please correct the closing date in your copy of the last list of field stations.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 27

July 5, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. CANADIAN FRUIT ACT.

A new measure calculated to regulate better the grading, packing and sale of fruits has been passed by the Parliament of Canada. This measure, The Fruit Act, supersedes The Fruit Marks Act passed in 1901 and the amendments which followed and, while conforming in the main to the original Act, makes provision for new grades for apples, crabapples and pears packed in boxes, new packages for apples, pears, cherries, plums and berries. It contains provisions which give both the producer and consumer greater protection than they heretofore have had in the sale and purchase of Canadian and imported fruits. In the grading of apples, the terms No. 1, No. 2, Domestic and No. 3 as applied to apples, crabapples and pears packed in boxes, have been superseded by the designations "Extra Fancy," "Fancy" and "C Grade." In barreled apples, "Domestic" grade has been changed to increase the percentage free from worm holes from 80 to 90. Provision also is made for the use of a half barrel, and definite dimensions are prescribed for packages for plums, prunes, cherries, berries or currants to conform to the United States legal packages.

Further provisions included in the new measure demand that fruit packed in open packages bearing any of the grade marks specified in the Act must comply with the grade requirements as defined therein; it is made an offence to handle fruit roughly in process of picking and packing; the defects in the "Domestic" grade of barreled apples termed in the original Act as "Slightly affected" are now defined to mean "not over 5 per cent scab and 5 per cent other defects on each specimen, but in the aggregate not to exceed 7 per cent of the surface of the fruit." Boxes containing apples, pears and peaches are required to show the number of specimens in each box. The new Act also includes a clause providing that an inspection certificate shall be prima facie evidence of the grade and condition of the fruit or packages referred to therein. These and other changes are expected to materially assist the development of the fruit industry in Canada.

2a. PEACH SITUATION IN NORTH CAROLINA.

In a recent letter, Robert Bier writes in glowing terms of the future prospects of the Sandhill peach area in North Carolina. He says in part:-

"I was never in a peach section where I have found growers taking better care of their orchards. The extremely cold weather of early spring killed off most of this crop. From what I can learn today and from what growers are actually harvesting, it looks like 20% of last year's crop. Mr. Page doubts if the whole deal will go over 500 cars. This he considers high. The Elberta crop is 10 to 15%; the Belles and Hileys about 20 to 30%, while the Carmans run 15 to 25%." Mr. Bier thinks that 100 to 200 carloads may be inspected.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTSMarket News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Clos
BRAWLEY, CALIF. Dunlack Hotel	808	V. D. Callanan	Cants.	May 28	July 12
FORT VALLEY, GA.* Citizens Bank Bldg.	833	G. E. Prince A. E. Prugh	Peaches	June 5	July 10
VALDOSTA, GA.* Hotel Valdes	832	J. D. Evers	W-Melons	June 20	July 14

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

MACON, GA.*	875	J. D. Evers	W-Melon	July 16	Aug. 11
KEARNEY, NEBR.*	930	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	July 12	Aug. 15
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.*	918	C. E. Schultz	Deciduous Fruits	July 16	Nov. 1

The following station closes on date indicated:

JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS*	811	W. H. Mosier	Tomatoes	June 11	<u>Closed</u> July 5
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\*State Department cooperating.

R. H. Shoemaker in Fort Worth office.



MARKET NEWS SERVICE
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1b. CORRECTIONS DESIRED FOR MARKET STATION ADDRESS LIST.

With this Division Letter, cards are being sent to all market stations on which to report necessary changes in the Market Station Address List. Please examine the old list, dated January 10, and indicate **all** corrections and additions on the card furnished for this purpose. The **list** will be re-vised at an early date.

2b. FIRST PRECOOLED CANTALOUPE ON CHICAGO MARKET.

W. H. Hall, of the Chicago office, writes as follows concerning the arrival of precooled cantaloupes on that market:

"The first car of precooled cantaloupes ever received on the Chicago market came in Saturday, June 16, and sold at prices well above prevailing prices for other stock. The car was one of several loaded by an ice company operating in the Imperial Valley of California and in conducting this experiment it is planned to send several cars to a number of the larger markets.

"Thus far the company has but one plant, located at El Centro. This is the same plant used in the precooling of lettuce. The cantaloupes are submerged in water cooled to a temperature of approximately 38 degrees by ammonia. They remain in the water about 30 minutes, after which they are packed in the usual manner, except that they are not wrapped. The stock is picked full slip, thus insuring the highest possible sugar content and a more uniform degree of maturity or ripeness than is possible when picked half slip. The following prices were realized on the first car: Jumbo 45's \$6.00; Jumbo 36's \$5.00; Pony 54's \$4.00; Flats, 12's and 15's \$2.00. This represented a premium of about 20% over other stock and, while the appearance of the precooled melons possibly warranted this difference in price, it is said that the flavor was only fair and apparently had been impaired by precooling.

"It is apparent that the precooling of cantaloupes is in the elementary stages of development and, while it is generally felt that it will eventually be adopted, the trade is not at all convinced that the method referred to above will prove entirely satisfactory."

In a letter of June 27, Mr. Hall advised further:-

"Demand for watermelons temporarily slackened today for the first time this season. Previously, the demand has been very active and dealers have had no difficulty in disposing of their receipts in a short time each morning. At present, there is somewhat of a buyers' market, although it is expected that this will be but temporary, and prices have remained firm. Today, with a lessened demand, the prices were higher than yesterday, on smaller sizes particularly. Quality has been only ordinary at best, and a few days ago only 3 of the 28 cars which arrived were in real good condition. The consumers have learned this fact and are buying less freely, which in part accounts for the decreased demand. Cooler weather also has played its part. It is expected that prices will drop somewhat during the next few days.

"New potatoes continue in fair demand, although just at present there is a lull in receipts, due to the fact that the Triumphs are practically cleaned up, and the Virginia stock has not yet arrived in appreciable quantities."

E. W. Stillwell.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK JUNE 25-30, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Philadelphia-Misc. R	1:57	2:21	24	20	12,750	355
New York - Misc. GNR	1:13	1:45	32	29	6,340	350
Washington- Misc.	1:21	2:21	60	10	2,275	--
Boston- Misc.	12:19	2:00	101	10	3,175	150
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Minneapolis- Misc. R	12:10	12:31	21	17	3,650	85
Chicago- Misc.	12:58	1:21	23	14	6,000	1,000
St. Louis - Misc.	12:13	12:36	23	10	2,755	225
Kansas City- Misc.	11:37	12:02	25	10	4,850	120
Cincinnati - Misc.	1:17	1:44	27	10	4,463	650
Pittsburgh- Misc.	11:18	11:45	27	10	1,997	49
Washington-(Nat'l) GNRTV, Ship. Inf. P'nuts				70	26,393	1,033
TOTAL	12:38#	1:14#	36#	210	74,648	4,017
" previous week	12:43#	1:18#	35#	203	74,771	4,024
<u>WESTERN OFFICE (June 16-23)</u>						
Los Angeles- Misc. GMR	3:20	4:19	59	16	11,225	--
" " previous wk	3:03	4:03	60	11	8,985	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				5,533	2,529,523	126,499

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK JUNE 25-30, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Brawley - G	1:25	3:20	4,300	800	--	--
Crystal Springs-T	1:15	1:55	1,377	216	3	--
Elizabeth City R	1:36	3:00	1,116	345	--	--
Fort Valley- N	12:28	3:09	3,548	591	10	--
Jacksonville - T	2:04	3:04	2,765	382	8	--
Valdosta - V	2:28	3:31	4,790	771	23	--
TOTAL	1:33#	3:00#	18,396			
" previous week	1:35#	2:56#	16,677			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			774,435			

# Average time.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 3,430,457



INSPECTION SERVICE.

1c. CORRECTIONS NEEDED FOR LIST OF INSPECTORS.

Men in charge of Inspection offices are requested to report promptly to Washington all changes and additions necessary to the last list of Inspectors and addresses, published under date of January 10. A post card especially for this purpose has been furnished each office with this Division Letter. It is planned to revise the address list in the near future, and corrections should be submitted at once.

2c. RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR 1923-1924.

The Rules and Regulations for the current fiscal year have been approved by the Secretary. Only minor changes have been made.

Since hay inspection is now being conducted under the Act, it does not seem appropriate to use the term "Food Products" in connection with the Inspection Service. The Rules and Regulations for butter, cheese and eggs, and for hay, are being published in separate Service and Regulatory Announcements. The Rules and Regulations published in our Regulatory Announcement will cover "fruits, vegetables, nuts and other products."

One of the important changes provides that the confirmation of verbal applications in writing "may be required by the Inspector" but does not necessarily have to be required. It is not intended that this change is to do away with the present general practice of insisting upon the confirmation of applications in writing. We believe that it should be continued. There are, however, cases when this seems impracticable, and in such cases it makes it possible for the Inspector to issue the certificate before he receives the written confirmation.

An additional paragraph under "Reinspection" provides that second inspections, made to determine factors of quality or condition which may have changed during transit, shall not be considered reinspections but shall be treated as new inspections.

Under the regulation on "Fraud," there has been added the statement that fraudulent practice may subject the shipper to prosecution for violation of the provisions of the Food and Drug Law of June 30, 1906, and may subject the products to seizure.

The new Rules and Regulations are being sent to the printer but will not be ready for circulation for about one month. Should there be any question as to details of the new regulations before that time, full information can be obtained by writing this office.

THE CHICAGO MARKET for old potatoes is in very poor shape, according to recent advice from Mr. Hall. A 60¢ sale is considered extraordinary. The bottom is about 30¢, and some stock recently has been dumped in the river.

3c. REVISED GRADES FOR BARRELED APPLES.

With this Division Letter each Inspector is being sent a copy of the revised grades for Barreled Apples. This supersedes the former recommended grades. Because of the very similar appearance of these pamphlets, care should be taken that the old and new grades be not confused. The new grades will be the basis of packing in a number of eastern States this year.

4c. REPORTING ICE IN HEAD LETTUCE.

The following from Mr. Butner should be observed by all Inspectors in reporting ice in crates of head lettuce:-

"I have noted on a number of certificates covering inspections of head lettuce the following or a similar statement under the heading Condition of Pack: 'crushed ice packed in center of crates.' When I was in Los Angeles, this matter was called to my attention on several occasions by shippers, who wondered whether all of the ice had melted except one or two small pieces in the center of the crate. When the lettuce is packed, crushed ice is placed 'between layers,' and it seems to me that the statement regarding this matter on the receiving-point certificate should be so worded. Probably our Inspectors in the markets are not familiar with the operation of packing head lettuce, and I believe that this matter should be called to their attention in the Division Letter."

5c. NO CHANGE IN TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS.

While the name "Food Products Inspection Service" is no longer used officially to designate our service, it is not believed best at the present time to make any change in the telegraphic address which is filed in all receiving markets.

6c. KAW VALLEY POTATOES.

Mr. Hoover is in Topeka to handle the shipping-point inspection of Kaw Valley potatoes during the present season. He advises that the prospects are excellent for a good crop. The potatoes are still growing rapidly, and the early shipments are likely to be somewhat immature. His last report states that there will be no shipments of any consequence before the middle of next week.

F. G. ROBB,  
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES.

Having returned from the S. E. Avery excess wool profits trial before the Federal District Court at Albany, N. Y., which required five days, Mr. Evans reports that practically every question involved in cases of this nature was thoroughly argued and that the trial finally resolved itself into questions of law rather than of fact. The jury, therefore, was dismissed and Judge Cooper will render his decision in the near future. This particular case involves the sum of \$5,500 excess profits made on 1918 wool clip. The Government's case was handled by J. S. Bohannon, of the Solicitor's office, with cordial assistance by U. S. Attorney Burden. A. D. Miller (formerly with this Division) and H. V. DeMott were witnesses.



OFFICE NOTES:

Recent word from Mr. Sherman indicates that he will be in Seattle today and in Portland on Friday. Early next week, he expects to be in San Francisco. Mr. Samson is with Mr. Sherman in Seattle and then will proceed to Yakima, Was.

Raymond R. Pailthorp, of Spokane, is being transferred to the Fruit and Vegetable Division, effective about July 14. He was originally appointed to the Department as an Investigator in Marketing Fruits and Vegetables in June, 1918. For a while, Mr. Pailthorp was on the pay-roll of our Division, investigating the apple industry in the Northwest, but most of his time was given to the section studying transportation and storage problems. During the past year he has been employed entirely by the Bureau of Plant Industry. Throughout practically his entire period of service, Mr. Pailthorp's headquarters have been in Spokane, Wash. He is joint author of Farmers' Bulletin 1204 on "Northwestern Apple Packing Houses" and also assisted in the preparation of a comprehensive report on Refrigerator Car Heating. It is expected that he will be associated with Mr. Samson's project in the F. & V. Division.

Mr. Boree returned to his desk on Monday, following his recent visit to Market News offices in Philadelphia, New York and Boston.

After closing the field station at Elizabeth City, N. C., last week, A. E. Prugh came to the Washington office for a few days. He left Wednesday for Fort Valley, Ga., to relieve Mr. Prince, who will report in Washington early next week.

J. G. Scott, whose appointment was announced in the D. L. for June 21, left on Tuesday for Philadelphia, where he eventually will be responsible for securing market reports on New Jersey and other homegrown products. F. H. Scruggs, who is now handling this work, probably will be given a field assignment.

On Monday, H. C. Miller was in the Washington office. He left that night for Kansas City and today is conferring with Daniel C. Rogers, of the State Department of Agriculture, regarding shipping-point inspection of potatoes which Mr. Miller will supervise in the Orrick section of Missouri.

Mr. Stillwell expects to go on a short trip in the interest of the Market News Service, starting next Sunday or Monday. He will proceed to Atlanta and assist in inaugurating the market reports in that city. Later he may visit the field stations at Fort Valley and Valdosta (or Macon). Visits may also be made to Cincinnati and Chicago.

Since this Division will not operate a field station at Phoenix, Ariz., this season, M. R. Wells, the Assistant State Statistician, probably will arrange to issue mimeographed reports to cantaloupe growers and shippers. He will secure shipment reports locally, and a brief summary of leading markets will be wired him daily through Kansas City.

Mr. Patton has gone on another short trip to confer with railroad officials at Cape Charles and possibly Norfolk, Va.; Wilmington, Del.; Bethlehem and Scranton, Pa. He will return by Monday.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued).

R. C. Butner is in Cadillac, Mich., today, attending a meeting of the State Extension Service with the Michigan Potato Growers' Exchange. At this gathering the matter of shipping-point inspection of potatoes will be discussed. On July 6, he will attend a similar meeting of fruit growers at Benton Harbor.

Effective July 9 and continuing for two weeks, the Columbus office of the Inspection Service will be closed, while Paul W. Barnes, Inspector, takes his annual leave.

Arrangements for shipping-point inspection work in New Jersey are being made by W. V. Stephens, of the New York office, in conference with D. S. Dilts, of the State office at Trenton. This special service will be inaugurated at an early date and may begin with the inspection of apples in the southern part of New Jersey. Mr. Stephens will represent the Government in this cooperative work, supervising the activities of local inspectors.

Robert Bier reports that very few cars of peaches will be shipped from North Carolina this week, and it may not be necessary for Mr. Mercker to go from New York and assist with this inspection service until next week.

As has been announced previously, shipping-point inspection in Colorado is no longer compulsory. The new State law, effective July 23, makes inspection optional, but it is believed that many growers and shippers will still avail themselves of the Federal-State certificates. E. F. McKune is in immediate charge of the cooperative inspection service.

W. J. Bertush, of the Chicago Market News office, is on leave at Minneapolis, June 21 to July 7. On his return, W. H. Hall will go on vacation at Warsaw, Ind., until July 23.

Herman Beckenstrater, Inspector in Philadelphia, is on leave at Highland Park, Pa., until the 13th of July.

Another temporary clerk who has been secured to assist in the preparation of the bulletin on shipments is Mrs. Blanche S. Kauffman, formerly with the War Dept.

W. C. Hackleman stopped at the Washington office today and Friday, en route to New York City, his permanent headquarters.

Starting today, L. H. Martin is on a three weeks' vacation at North Beach, near Chesapeake Beach, Md. Miss Dorothy Sheehan, assistant to Mrs. Mills, is on annual leave at Newport, R. I., until the end of July.

Mrs. L. B. Gerry, of the Spokane office, has already distributed blanks to apple shippers in the Northwest, on which they will report the first f.o.b. sales of this year's apple crop. This work is preliminary to the resumption of the usual apple market reports in the Northwest.

The New Orleans office has been moved from the Pan-American Bank Bldg. to Room 207 Post Office Bldg. Please use the new address in all future communications with Mr. Shirley.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 28

July 12, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. CONTINUE USING OLD LETTERHEADS.

It is the desire of Mr. Sherman that the old letterheads, bearing the explanatory statement "Formerly Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates and Office of Farm Management and Farm Economics," shall continue to be used for correspondence handled by the Fruit and Vegetable Division in our various branch offices as well as in Washington. He feels that it is too soon after the adoption of the present name of the Bureau to omit such explanation in connection with correspondence with persons who have had dealings with this Bureau under its former names. The Bureau has acceded to Mr. Sherman's request. All branch office and field men, therefore, should act accordingly. Orders for letterheads will be filled from the stock containing the explanatory statement.

2a. AUTOMOBILE TIRES AND TUBES.

Estimates of the number of tires and tubes which would be needed during the months of July, August, and September were secured last May from our branch offices which operate official automobiles. It was understood that this information was desired to enable the General Supply Committee to make an economical contract for this three-months' period. We have just learned that purchases have actually been made in accordance with the estimates and that the tires and tubes probably will be delivered at the various offices this week. Orders for such tires and tubes, however, were not placed by this Division. Upon their receipt, please promptly advise Mr. Evans of the number received, and state whether these will fully supply your needs for the summer.

3a. WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR JUNE 30.

Fruit and vegetable material appearing in Weather, Crops and Markets for June 30 is as follows:

Page 633 - Summary of markets for week ending June 23.

634 - Condition of pecan crop.

- Increase in production of green peas for canning.

641 - Weekly review, with special paragraph on watermelons; tables of carload shipments and f.o.b. prices.

642 - Arrivals and prices of fruits and vegetables in city markets.

- Georgia Peach Movement Delayed, - by Mr. Prince.

- East Texas Tomatoes Show Good Quality, - by Mr. Mosier.

643 - Fruit and Vegetable Inspections during May.

- Cantaloupe Advertising in New York City, - by O. D. Miller.

- Onions Are Late in New York.

- Filler on lettuce acreage and movement in New Jersey and New York.

650 - Cabbage Acreage of 1923 Reduced.

651 - List of new publications issued.

654 - Effect of weather on various crops.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTSMarket News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
FORT VALLEY, GA.* Citizens Bank Bldg.	833	A. E. Prugh	Peaches	June 5	July 25
MACON, GA.* Hotel Macon	875	J. D. Evers	W-Melon	July 11	Aug. 11
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.* Room 27, Mull Bldg.	918	C. E. Schultz	Pears Peaches Pl.&Pr. Grapes	July 12 July 16 July 16 July 16	Oct. 1 Oct. 1 Sept. 15 Nov. 1

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

KEARNEY, NEBR.*	930	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	July 18	Aug. 15
KENNETT, MO.	819	F. H. Scruggs	W-Melons	Aug. 1	Aug. 22
CALDWELL, IDA.	923	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Aug. 1	Sept. 1

The following stations closed on dates indicated:

ERAWLEY, CALIF. Dunlack Hotel	808	V. D. Callanan	Cants.	May 28	<u>Closed</u> July 12
VALDOSTA, GA.* Hotel Valdes	832	J. D. Evers	W-Melons	June 20	July 7

\*State Department cooperating.

R. H. Shoemaker in Fort Worth office.

V. D. Callanan in San Francisco office.

W. H. Mosier in Kansas City office.



MARKET NEWS SERVICE.1b. CONDITIONS ON CHICAGO MARKET.

Under date of July 5, H. S. Stiles, of the Chicago office, submitted the following interesting letter:-

"The watermelon market broke sharply this morning under heavy receipts, and prices were little over half those realized earlier in the season. The highest price received, which came to our attention, was a car of 30 lb. average melons, sold at \$500. This car would easily have brought over \$1,000 a few weeks ago. This is the first sharp fall of this market for the season. No improvement is expected in the near future, as the receipts probably will continue heavy for some time.

"The Chicago trade is considerably dissatisfied over the recent railroad ruling which requires Imperial Valley shippers to load cars heavier, due to the car shortage. Cantaloupes have been arriving in bad shape here, and the trade generally believes this to be the cause. With a number of cars, it is said that only cantaloupes near the ends of the car have been in good condition, and stock in the middle was considerably overripe. It is believed that, if the cars were loaded only as heavy as formerly, this trouble of overripe condition would be remedied in a large measure."

2b. WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR JULY 7.

Members of the Fruit and Vegetable Division will be interested in the following material published in Weather, Crops and Markets for July 7:

Page 1 - Summary of the markets for week ending June 30.

- 3 - Average Apple Crop Half a Full Crop; table of production figures.
- 10 - Weekly review, with special paragraph on potatoes; tables of carload shipments and f.o.b. prices.
- 11 - Arrivals and prices of fruits and vegetables in city markets.
  - Heavy Shipments of Apples and Potatoes.
  - Peanut Stocks Becoming Very Light.
  - Pre-Cooled Cantaloupes Arrived in Fine Condition.
- 12 - Very Light Honey Crop Expected.
  - New Market Stations in Western Cities.
  - Florida Potato Season Closed, (based on summary of Hastings deal).
  - Additional Market News Field Stations.
- 19 - List of new publications issued.
  - California Quarantines Citrus Plants and Fruits.
- 21 - Chinese Markets for Australian Fruit.
  - Prices of British Agricultural Produce Decrease in 1922.
  - Filler on the new apple crop.
- 22 - Effect of weather on certain crops.

3b. SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS FROM MARKET STATIONS.

Every market station which has not yet submitted the usual semi-annual report of activities for the period January 1 to June 30, 1923, should do so as promptly as possible.

PITTSBURGH advises that a special report is being furnished the National Stockman and Farmer, and is used by that paper for broadcasting through the local Westinghouse radio station. Broadcasting of the Pittsburgh market reports by radio has been resumed since the last semi-annual report. This distribution is made through KDKA station of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co., East Pittsburgh.



4b. PRECOOLED CANTALOUPE IN NEW YORK CITY.

O. D. Miller, market reporter in New York City, tells in the following letter about the precooled cantaloupes which arrived on that market. The letter is dated July 3:- (A general article on this subject appears on page 11 of Weather, Crops and Markets for July 7, and it is referred to on page 10.)

"Two cars of precooled cantaloupes were received in the New York market from Imperial Valley this week, one arriving on July 2 and the other on July 3. On both days the precooled melons brought a premium of \$1 a crate on standards and ponys and 50¢ on flats. Similar results were obtained on two cars received last week in Chicago and Pittsburgh.

"The precooled cantaloupes received in New York were in fine condition, although fully ripe and suitable only for immediate consumption. They had been picked on the full slip, and carried through without any appreciable deterioration.

"Precooling is a new feature of the cantaloupe industry and has been tried this year only in an experimental way. The system is being worked out by an ice company in the Imperial Valley, which carried on similar experiments in precooling lettuce during the early part of this year. Cantaloupes which are to be precooled are picked at a riper stage than those for shipment in the usual manner. They are packed unwrapped, and the packed crates are submerged in ice water until the temperature of the melons has been lowered to 45 degrees; this requires between an hour and an hour and a half. They have been found to dry satisfactorily within half an hour after their removal from the water without the use of fans. The ice company makes a charge of 25¢ for standard crates and 12½¢ for flats. The refrigeration charge is slightly higher than on ordinary shipments, because the cars are iced long enough in advance of loading to cool them thoroughly."

5b. CANTALOUPE AUCTION IN PITTSBURGH:

The following correspondence from Mr. Callanan, in charge of the field station at Brawley, Calif., and a summary of statements included in a recent letter from Mr. Boyd, of the Pittsburgh office, are published for the information of our own men. There evidently are two sides to the proposition of selling cantaloupes at auction. Mr. Callanan's letter of June 26 follows:-

"As you have noticed, no doubt, we have included in our reports unofficial auction prices at Pittsburgh, the quotations being supplied by representatives of the auction company here. From the results of the past week or two, it would seem that this method is indeed a new departure in the selling of fruits and vegetables and is here to stay. Their returns have been almost invariably higher than the cash market and, when shippers can receive a check here the day after the sale and two days after shipment, with a cost of selling as low as 5%, you can appreciate why the auction company has been increasing its business and causing the cash buyers to 'gnash their teeth.' Several of the old-time consignment operators who are now practically farming the land themselves, on account of the anti-Japanese legislation, are planning to ship their stock under two brands next year, one of which will be sold for cash or at auction, as they see fit. The Brawley deal is fast becoming comparable to other deals for these reasons.

"The success of the National Auction Company with cantaloupes is almost certain to be followed with grapes and oranges. I should say that the plan will be tried. It will simply be another basis of sale and one



that has far-reaching possibilities. It is a gratifying endorsement of the confidence of buyers in Government inspection and should do more to extend the use of the shipping-point service than any other one fact. We have maintained a discreet disinterestedness in the matter, but have become impressed with the practicability of the scheme and the efficient manner in which the sales and returns are being handled.

"We have included these auction quotations without having received instructions direct from Washington, but (as you can appreciate) the auction people have had to give us correct information, because the shippers here have been watching the sales closely and we have been able to check the returns received with the shippers themselves."

Parts of Mr. Boyd's letter of June 30 are quoted below:-

"Enclosed you will find an auction catalogue, showing prices at which cantaloupes were sold Friday, June 29. You will note that these prices range from \$1.75 to \$2.05. All except one of these cars were shipped on June 28 and our report shows the f.o.b. price on that date to be \$1.60-\$1.75.

"Much complaint is heard among the Pittsburgh receivers regarding the new auction company. They claim that it destroys an equal distribution of goods and at the same time enables small receivers to buy cantaloupes which, upon arrival, they sell below the market, thus keeping the market in an unsettled condition. There probably is some truth in their contention, but I believe it is a condition which would eventually right itself, as the small dealers would leave cantaloupes alone if they have to sell them at a loss upon arrival. The main reason for the large receivers' complaint, but one which they hesitate to admit, is the inroads which the auction has made in their receipts. Several firms, who were heavy receivers in past years, have handled very few cantaloupes this season. In fact, some of these houses are buying cars at auction.

"Morris Kellerman, a son of David Kellerman, advises me that the shippers of these cantaloupes receive their money the same day the stock is sold. This money is either guaranteed or deposited in their local bank, and the shipper and grower can draw against it immediately he is advised what his shipment brought. This doubtless will appeal to many shippers who, in the past, have been forced to wait several weeks for their account sales and remittance.

"Up to the present time the auction has been a decided success. Of course, many things have been in its favor, the high prices of watermelons and peaches, two of the chief competitors of cantaloupes, making the demand for cantaloupes better than it ordinarily would have been. The good quality and condition of arrivals is another factor in its favor, very little soft or unsalable stock having arrived on the market. The auction company expects to offer deciduous fruits, - peaches, pears, plums, prunes and grapes, - later in the season."



6b. VEGETABLES IN SOUTH JERSEY.

An interesting report of Mr. Biddle's recent trip to producing sections in southern New Jersey is contained in this letter of July 9:-

"On Friday, July 6, I made a trip through South Jersey and, while I had time for but little more than general observation, I thought you might be interested in conditions in that section.

"This entire section has had a very bad growing season. First, the cold weather during the early spring not only hindered plantings but also held back the growth of all plants. Following on top of this has been a prolonged drought and extremely hot weather. In spite of the cold weather, there were no late killing frosts, due to the presence of high winds.

"The strawberry fields gave promise of one of the best seasons for many years. The beds showed a good growth and a heavy set of berries, but the hot dry weather literally burnt up the patches and the season as a whole has been one of the poorest. Only low meadow lands and the irrigated patches showed any return worth while, and even the latter crop was not up to expectations. The late or main crop of berries was hurt more seriously than the early crop.

"The peas and string beans felt the drought more than most crops, and many acres, especially of peas, were plowed under without returning a cent for seed, fertilizer, or labor.

"The early crop of tomatoes will be one of the smallest in many years as, in most patches, there seems to be a decided gap between the maturing of the crown set and of the fruit on the branches. The crown setting is being quickly harvested and selling at good prices. Our market has been ranging \$3.50-5.00 per 5/8 bushel basket, or 20-qt. crate. Under ordinary conditions the peak of the early crop would be this coming week, with prices normally from 20 to 60 cents. It is almost impossible to forecast the outcome for the next few weeks. The middle, or second early, crop looks only fair, while the late crop will be much later than usual because of the inability of growers to set out plants with any surety that they would not require replanting.

"The onion crop also is very poor. In the Cumberland County section around Cedarville, the crop is estimated at less than 50 per cent, while in many other sections it will be as low as 25 per cent. Growers around Cedarville ship mostly to Newark and New York, and there is practically no attempt being made to grade the stock this year. The onions are packed into bushel hampers, field run. So far as I could learn, the dealers claim the stock so poor that they have not bought any this season. There were three cars loaded the day I was there. As all the dealers at the stations represent some commission firm, I believe that they are satisfied to collect their 3% commission for loading and getting the consignments.

"Concerning the potato crop, I have heard many stories of absolute failure, but I do not believe conditions anywhere near so bad as they have been pictured. This is particularly true of the principal growing sections of Salem and Cumberland counties. In Gloucester County, where the potato is one of the many truck crops, conditions are bad and the fields look very poor, the vines in most all cases being badly blighted and dying, although they are generally less than 12 inches high. Some of this stock is coming to the market now and is all decidedly undersized, so far as U. S. grade No. 1 is concerned. But I believe that the growers in the main potato belt of South Jersey, between



Woodstown and Bridgeton, will have a fairly good crop. The soil in this section is better adapted to withstand prolonged droughts. From the limited observation I was able to make, I should say that the stand was generally good, and the vines are still green and in good condition but show small growth. I believe that the set will be light and, as there have been several heavy showers over the entire district during the past week, the tubers should develop in good shape and turn out a good crop of No. 1's. The chief trouble that I am afraid confronts the grower is that the tubers will get too large and develop hollow-heart. It seems that, if it is not one extreme, it will be the other.

"There will be a few cars loaded before the 16th, but dealers are figuring on the season really opening Monday, July 16, with fairly heavy shipments after July 23. It is the consensus that, should prices be maintained at near a level of \$3.00 per hundredweight, the crop will all be moved by the last of August. The acreage is said to be about normal throughout this section. In the Northern District the drought is said to have been more serious and damaging than in the Southern District, and I have been told that the acreage has been cut decidedly below <sup>normal</sup>. This would seem to indicate that the total potato movement from New Jersey will be very light and that a good early season should be open for Long Island and the early Maine Cobblers in September."

7b. FIELD STATION SUMMARIES TO BE ISSUED IN NEW FORM.

Beginning with the summary of the Imperial Valley Lettuce Deal, which is being distributed today, all field station summaries will be mimeographed on letter-size paper (8 x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches), and will be bound in book-form at the left margin. Each summary also will have an appropriate cover page. This new style has been recommended by the Division of Information and should be followed by all field men. The manuscript copies of summaries sent to Washington for mimeographing may still be ~~re~~rewritten on either short or long paper.

The Division of Information considers the letter-size paper a more convenient size for pamphlets of this nature,- convenient both for reference and for filing. It is the plan of that Division also to distribute a number of copies of each summary to certain farm journals and newspapers, which may abstract and publish a great deal of the information.

When sending manuscripts to Washington, all field men should remember to DOUBLE SPACE the text. It is almost impossible to edit the text when copy is single-spaced.

Another summary released today,- the last one to be mimeographed on long paper,- is the Wisconsin 1922-23 White Potato Deal, by Mr. Mosier. The Imperial Valley lettuce summary was written by Mr. Hall.

B. C. Boree,  
Investigator in Market Surveys.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK JULY 2 - 7, 1923. (REDUCED TO 100% TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
New York - Misc. GN	1:46	2:05	19	17	4,476	381
Philadelphia - Misc. R	2:10	2:40	30	16	10,300	300
Boston - Misc.	1:31	2:09	38	8	2,540	150
Washington - Misc.	1:23	2:19	56	10	2,265	--
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Minneapolis - Misc.	12:16	12:29	13	10	2,060	110
Chicago - Misc.	12:10	12:15	15	10	4,800	500
St. Louis - Misc.	12:11	12:34	23	9	2,340	410
Kansas City - Misc. Hon.	12:59	11:26	25	9	9,595	1,095
Cincinnati - Misc.	1:45	2:11	26	8	3,568	650
Pittsburgh - Misc.	11:02	11:31	29	8	1,607	49
Washington - (Nat'l) GN RTV, Honey, P'nuts, Ship. Infn.	60				22,145	1,030
TOTAL	12:55#	1:22#	27#	155	65,696	4,675
" previous week	12:43#	1:14#	36#	210	74,648	4,017
<u>WESTERN OFFICE (June 25-30)</u>						
Los Angeles - Misc. R	3:05	4:03	58	11	9,205	--
" " previous week	3:20	4:19	59	16	11,225	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				5,709	2,604,424	131,174

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK JULY 2 - 7, 1923. (REDUCED TO 100% TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Brawley - G	12:05	2:32	5,000	938	17	--
Fort Valley - N	1:00	3:09	2,939	588	--	--
Jacksonville - T	2:58	3:48	1,420	398	4	--
Valdosta - V	3:22	5:00	4,638	917	19	--
TOTAL	1:36#	3:37#	13,997			
" previous week	1:33#	3:00#	18,396			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			914,432			

# Average time.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 3,650,030.



INSPECTION SERVICE.1c. NEW CERTIFICATE FORMS:

A large supply of new certificate forms has been received from the Printing Office. These differ from our other forms only in size and in arrangement of the portion above the line for "Market".

The size has been reduced to regular letter size without lessening the space under the different headings with the exception of the space under REMARKS, which has one line less than the old forms.

All certificates on hand which have been received since January 15 of this year should be used before beginning on the new forms, which will be sent only on order. Care should be used not to mix the old and the new forms.

If it is found that you still have some "copies" on hand after your present supply of originals has been exhausted, these should be returned to the Washington office, so that they can be used for certification purposes.

2c. REPORTING REINSPECTIONS:

The attention of all Inspectors is called to Par. 1 c. on page 88 of the Division Letter of February 23. A number of reports received recently have failed to give the information requested in this connection. It is not sufficient to say "3 reinspections" or "1 reinspection California potatoes, certificate reversed." Please give this careful attention in the future.

3c. GEORGIA PEACH INSPECTIONS:

The following letter, dated July 9, was received from Mr. Conklin, who is supervising the peach inspection work in the Fort Valley district:

"This past week we made 85 inspections, making a total of 132 to date. The work is progressing very satisfactorily on a small scale with four inspectors, each one permanently in a packing house. The Georgia Belles are starting to-day and will be heavy all this week and next. They are showing considerable spray burn and some worms and, generally, are not starting off as good in quality as the Hileys, which are cleaning up to-day. The Elbertas will start about the 16th and the deal will be over soon after July 25. We expect to make about 400 inspections."

4c. SOWEGA AND MIDGA MELONS NOT SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTED.

We have been advised by one of the Inspectors that it is reported that Sowega and Midga melons are shipping-point inspected. This is not the case. These melons are inspected only by the Association.

F. G. Robb,  
Specialist in Inspection.

(SEE MONTHLY REPORTS ON NEXT PAGE)

5c.

## INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF JUNE, 1923

MARKETS	Total Fruits C/L & L.C.L.	Total Vege- tables C/L & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total same Month 1922	Inspec- tions for Car- riers	Declin- ed for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certifi- cate Copy Fees
Atlanta	5	21	26	31	8	0	\$ 104	-	\$ 4
Baltimore	47	17	64	51	7	0	236	12.50	0
Boston	4	106	110	213	34	12	412	20.00	6
Buffalo	26	53	79	84	13	2	260	35.00	5
Chicago	42	187	229	223	34	7	856	30.	33
Cincinnati	14	64	78	61	5	3	292	12.50	3
Cleveland	29	136	165	190	50	2	588	30.	77
Columbus	51	58	109	33	69	3	436	0	-
Denver	4	11	15	13	0	0	40	7.50	3
Detroit	73	98	171	175	30	1	636	30.	2
Harrisburg	1	6	7	7	1	0	28	0	0
Indianapolis	16	31	47	45	2	2	180	5	0
Kansas City	10	42	52	67	3	0	188	12.50	5
Memphis	5	22	27	24	17	0	108	0	9
Milwaukee	20	20	40	70	5	0	148	0	2
Minneapolis	16	46	62	54	0	0	204	2.50	2
New Haven	0	25	25	0	1	1	76	15.	2
New Orleans	17	51	68	66	50	0	260	7.50	22
New York	202	201	403	339	185	333	1624	15.	13
Norfolk	3	15	18	-	4	0	72	-	2
Omaha	5	11	16	16	2	0	48	5.	1
Philadelphia	169	70	239	212	175	0	884	42.50	45
Pittsburgh	44	205	249	685	53	12	980	10.	21
St. Louis	12	158	170	144	109	0	644	10.	58
Washington	5	25	30	54	12	0	108	7.50	29
Wilkes-Barre	5	15	20	31	2	3	76	2.50	8
TOTAL	825	1694	2519	2888	871	381	\$9488	\$312.50	\$352

## RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections.....	825	Inspections for Carriers	871
TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections.	1694	Declined for lack of time	381
Grand Total C/L and L.C.L. Inspections	2519	Total Fees Assessed	\$10,212.50

\* The Total Fees Assessed include \$60.00 for inspection of mixed cars.



## 6c. INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING JUNE, 1923.

Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps	Total Number of Inspec- tions		ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS										Items bille shor weig
			Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL Quantity INSPECTED		Cuts made to comply with spec- ifications				
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N		
BOSTON	353	15	221178	12463	23976	0	245154	12463	522	0	81		
NEW YORK	491	46	301556	222525	35835	0	337391	222525	1460	31	0		
NORFOLK	36	-	76064	-	0	-	76064	-	500	-	0		
PHILADELPHIA	474	28	254785	14966	10012	3040	264797	18006	2344	189	0		
SAN DIEGO	***	65	351191	28018	4642	2929	355833	30947	1360	8	0		
SAN FRANCISCO	***	-	900104	-	103785	-	1003889	-	610	-	0		
SAN PEDRO	***	-	219755	-	5956	-	225711	-	250	-	0		
TOTALS	1354	154	2324633	277972	184206	5969	2508839	283941	7046	228	81		

\*\*\* No record of number of inspections.

In addition to the above, the New York office made 27 inspections for U. S. Health Hospitals; 33,798 pounds passed.

The San Pedro office inspected the following amounts of bread and butter besides the fruits and vegetables given above: Bread, 14,463 lbs., butter, 3,861 lbs.

The Norfolk office made 24 inspections for the Laid-Up Fleet of the Shipping Board, amounting to 60,494 lbs. passed, with no rejections; 100 lbs. cut to meet specifications.

The June report of inspections made by the New York office for the Laid-Up Fleet will be given in the next issue of the Division Letter.

*See report  
page 347 of  
D.L. for July 1923*

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman is now in Los Angeles, and soon expects to reach Salt Lake City on his homeward trip. Mr. Samson is in Spokane today and will reach Boise Friday night.

On his trip in the interest of peanut grades and warehousing, Paul M. Williams has reached Montgomery, Ala., and Atlanta, Ga. He is gradually working toward Washington.

After closing the field station at Brawley, Calif., this week, V. D. Callanan will spend a few days in the Los Angeles office, and then proceed to San Francisco, probably making stops at Fresno and Lodi to interview growers and shippers in those districts. For a short period he will assist in issuing daily market reports at San Francisco. Mr. Sherman advises that the regular assistant in this work, however, will be a Mr. Holmes, of the State Division of Markets, who will share office space with C. J. Hansen.

A. E. Mercker, Assistant Supervising Inspector, passed through Washington on Sunday, en route from New York to Aberdeen, N. C., where he will supervise the work of peach inspectors at shipping points.

F. J. Baehler, of the Chicago Inspection staff, was in Springfield, Ill., yesterday. He and Director Davison, of the State Department of Agriculture, met applicants for positions as inspectors under the new co-operative agreement. Mr. Davison called a meeting of interested shippers for July 17 to arrange further details of the shipping-point inspection service, which will soon begin on early apples.

On the list of temporary field stations of the Market News Service, it will be noticed that the Valdosta office closed earlier than expected and that Mr. Evers has now gone to Macon, Ga., to issue watermelon reports. Service at Fort Valley will be continued until about July 25, and the opening of the office at Kearney, Nebr., has had to be deferred until next week. Meanwhile, W. H. Mosier, who probably will go to Kearney, is working on his Texas tomato summary in the Kansas City office.

George E. Prince arrived in Washington on Monday and is spending this week in the local office. Next Monday evening he will proceed to New York, where he will substitute for O. D. Miller, while the latter takes annual leave, July 21 to August 4.

It is expected that W. D. Googe, of the Fort Worth office, will spend the last half of July at the Officers' Training Camp at Fort Sill, Okla.. R. H. Shoemaker is temporarily handling the market reports at Fort Worth.

George A. DeHaven, whose appointment was mentioned in the Division Letter of June 28, leaves on Friday for Chicago. He will assist in the Market News office in that city, thereby gaining additional experience in this work.



OFFICE NOTES (Continued.)

First telegraphic reports were sent to the Sacramento office today. New York, Pittsburgh and Chicago auction reports on pears were wired to C. E. Schultz, and complete report on peaches, pears and plums will be started next Monday, when the western leased wire circuit is opened.

Mrs. Anna C. Page, who was employed in the Rochester office in many past seasons, has been reinstated to assist in securing railroad information for the New York Bureau of Markets and Storage until our Rochester office is reopened this fall. The State Bureau, from its office in the Mercantile Building, Rochester, has begun to issue market reports on lettuce, for the benefit of growers and shippers of that commodity in New York.

C. W. Hauck has returned from his vacation in Indiana and Ohio. He will not leave for his next field assignment until Mr. Samson returns from the West.

Two new clerks in Mr. Patton's section are John M. McLaughlin, formerly with the Division of Publications, and Louis DiPasquale. Mr. DePasquale is handling part of the early morning work on shipment reports, previously handled by T. E. Berkeley, who has resigned.

Mrs. Alice M. Berger has been appointed to assist with work in the Domestic Wool Section. She formerly was employed in the Veterans' Bureau, and takes the place vacated by Mrs. L. A. McDaniel, who has been transferred to the Crop Estimates force.

Friends of Russell L. Lepper, once connected with Mr. Fiske's section, will be interested to learn that he is now Assistant Treasurer of a Richmond firm, with a large mail-order business in automobile parts. His address is 1203 Laburnum Ave., Richmond, Va.

Just before leaving Brawley, Calif., C. E. Schultz submitted a clipping from the Imperial Valley Press, published at El Centro. It is a brief market report on cantaloupes, including shipments, f.o.b. information at Brawley, and a condensed statement of the leading city markets. This report was telephoned to El Centro daily from the Brawley office, the charges being paid by local distributors.

About July 20, E. R. Biddle, of the Philadelphia office, expects to begin securing f.o.b. reports on New Jersey potatoes, similar to those he has been obtaining from the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

Miss Mayme Parker, who is temporarily with the Classification Board, is now located in Tempo Building No. 5, at 20th and B Streets, N. W.

It is understood that E. F. McKune, of the Colorado State staff, has moved his headquarters from Fort Collins to Room 329, Capitol Building, Denver. He and Paul A. Cauble, cooperative Inspector, will share this office in Denver, Mr. Cauble having moved from the State Museum Building. The new Market News office will be in Room 24, Capitol Bldg.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 29

July 19, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR JULY 14.

Weather, Crops and Markets for July 14 contained much statistical information and other material of interest to Fruit and Vegetable employes, which is listed below:

- Page 25 - Summary of markets for week ending July 7.
- 26 - Forecasts of production for July 1, on various crops, including peanuts, sugar beets, beans, peaches, pears, apples, white and sweet potatoes.
- Deviation of harvested yields from July forecasts.
- 27 - July forecasts of yield per acre compared with final yields, for sweet and white potatoes.
- Farm price comparisons for various crops.
- Acreage, condition, production, yield and farm price of potatoes, sweet potatoes, beans, peaches, pears, apples, grapes, peanuts, and sugar beets.
- 28 - Time of Issuance and Scope of August Crop Reports.
- 29 - Relative condition of certain crops on July 1.
- 31 - Condition and production July 1, of apples, peaches, pears and condition of grapes, blackberries, raspberries and melons.
- Area of sugar cane, 1921-23
- Cabbage and tomatoes in Ohio.
- 32 - Acreage, condition and production July 1, of potatoes and sweet potatoes.
- Commercial cabbage and onions in Michigan.
- 33 - Acreage, condition and production July 1, of beans and peanuts.
- 34 - July 1 condition of early potatoes, tomatoes, watermelons, cabbage, cantaloupes, and onions.
- 35 - Estimated farm price of apples, June 15.
- Averages of prices received by producers June 15, 1922, and recent years, for cabbage, onions, beans, and peanuts.
- 36 - Estimated farm price of beans June 15.
- Condition of certain crops in Florida and California, with comparisons.
- Filler on export of onions from Rumania.
- 37 - Estimated farm price of white and sweet potatoes.
- Averages of prices received by producers, July 1, 1922, with comparisons, for white and sweet potatoes and apples.
- 43 - Sugar beet acreage and production, 1917-1923.
- 44 - Filler on prospects of honey yield.
- 45 - Weekly review, with special paragraph on tomatoes; tables of carload shipments, and f.o.b. prices.
- Lettuce Crop Late in Western New York. (Continued over)

WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR JULY 14 (Cont'd):

- Page 46 - Arrivals and prices of fruits and vegetables in leading markets.  
 - Arizona Cantaloupe Season Well Advanced, - by Mr. Callanan.  
 - Lettuce reports from Rochester.  
 - Season's Apple Shipments Break Record, - with tables and chart showing holdings in cold storage.  
 51 - List of new publications issued.  
 54 - Effect of the weather upon various crops.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE.1b. ADDITIONS TO CODE PAGES "KU," "WA"

- On "KU" (Cantaloupes) page  
 Make KUD - Crates read  
     KUD - Standard Crates (for Honey Dews only)  
 Make KUF - Climax 12-qt. read  
     KUF - Jumbo Crates (for Honey Dews only)

Then "standard crates Honey Dews" will be expressed "KUDAJ" as at present, and "jumbo crates Honey Dews" will read "KUFAJ." This change is made at the suggestion of Mr. Miller, who states that the jumbo crate (16 $\frac{1}{4}$ " X 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ " X 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ " inside measurements) is being received in considerable volume in New York City.

- Also on "KU" page  
 Make KUP - Pony Flats 18s read  
     KUP - Pony Flats 15s and 18s.

Standard flats 15s will still be express by "KUN."

- On "WA" (Mixed Vegetables) page  
 Make WAK - Hampers  $\frac{1}{2}$  bushel read  
     WAK - 5-Peck Hampers

2b. PREPARATION OF AUCTION REPORTS.

Auction reports to date have shown a considerable lack of uniformity in method of preparation. In order to insure uniformity, every auction report should contain the following for each commodity:-

1. Weather at 8 o'clock, local time.
2. Arrivals and cars on track, unless given earlier in the day with regular market report.
3. Number of cars or number of packages sold at auction that day. In markets in which that information is available, the number of packages sold should be included for each variety to indicate the relative importance of each.
4. For plums, quote on 4-basket crates only, disregarding boxes and lugs. Confine quotations to Wickson, Grand Duke, Giant, Gros (or Hungarian) and Kelsey. For pears, quote on full boxes only, disregarding half boxes. For the present, confine quotations to Bartletts. For peaches, quote on boxes only, emphasizing quotations on Elbertas.
5. Give ranges of sale by varieties and containers, with an average when it can be obtained, otherwise a "mostly" price. When a large number of packages is sold and the range is very wide, both the average and "mostly" prices will be valuable. Do not group arrivals or number of cars sold at auction of more than one commodity. Make the report for each commodity complete in itself.



3b. ITEMS FROM SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS.

NEW YORK office is planning to issue reviews of the market season for several of the more important commodities, covering receipts, jobbing prices, and special features during the period of heavy supply, similar to the field station summaries issued at the close of each temporary office.

The first of these reviews has just been received from Mr. Miller. It is signed by him and S. W. Russell, and is printed on both sides of one sheet of long paper. The title is: "Review of the 1923 Season for Southern Cabbage on the New York Market." An individual line gives information for the following column-headings each day from Jan. 2 to June 30:

Date	Shipments	Total	Florida Stock		S. C. Stock		Virginia Stock	
	Total U.S.	Receipts	Receipts	Prices	Receipts	Prices	Receipts	Prices

The opening paragraph above the long table reads as follows:

"The table below shows daily shipments of cabbage, and receipts and prices of Southern stock in the New York market. During the first three months of this period, Northern cabbage shipped from storage was an important factor. The absence of its stabilizing influence will be noted in the latter half of the period, when prices fluctuated sharply with the daily receipts. Total shipments from Florida were 1,117 cars, from South Carolina 3,533 cars, and from Virginia 2,108 cars, and of these totals New York City received 25% from each State."

4b. MICHIGAN PEACH SUMMARY.

Copies of the summary of the 1922 Michigan Peach Deal are being distributed today. This was prepared by R. H. Shoemaker, who operated the field station at Benton Harbor. His summaries on grapes and apples will be released in the near future.

B. C. BOREE,  
Investigator in Market Surveys.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTSMarket News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
FORT VALLEY, GA.* Citizens Bank Bldg.	833	A. E. Prugh	Peaches	June 5	July 28
MACON, GA.* Hotel Macon	875	J. D. Evers F. H. Scruggs	W-Melons	July 11	Aug. 11
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.* Room 27, Mull Bldg.	918	C. E. Schultz	Pears Peaches Pl. & Pr. Grapes	July 12 July 16 July 16 July 30	Oct. 1 Oct. 1 Sept. 15 Nov. 1
KEARNEY, NEBR.*	930	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	July 23	Aug. 15

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

KENNETT, MO.	819	H. S. Stiles	W-Melons	Aug. 1	Aug. 22
CALDWELL, IDA.	928	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Aug. 1	Sept. 1

\* State Department cooperating.  
R. H. Shoemaker in Fort Worth office.  
V. D. Callahan in San Francisco office.



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK JULY 9-14, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
New York - Misc. GNR	2:00	2:19	19	21	6,185	391
Philadelphia- Misc. R	2:09	2:41	32	21	13,257	355
Washington- Misc.	1:16	2:18	62	10	2,260	--
Boston - Misc.	12:39	2:03	84	10	3,165	200
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Minneapolis- Misc. R	12:07	12:25	18	18	3,755	110
St. Louis- Misc.	12:26	12:46	20	10	3,730	225
Pittsburgh- Misc.	11:36	11:59	23	10	2,044	49
Chicago - Misc.	11:54	12:18	24	14	6,000	1,000
Cincinnati- Misc.	1:48	2:12	24	10	4,485	650
Kansas City- Misc.	12:00	12:28	28	10	6,225	1090
Washington-(Nat'l) GNRV P'nuts, Ship. Infm.				69	22,496	1029
TOTAL	12:48#	1:21#	33#	203	73,602	5099
" previous week	12:55#	1:22#	27#	165	65,696	4675
<u>WESTERN OFFICE (July 2-7)</u>						
Los Angeles - Misc. R Ship. Infm.	3:19	4:21	62	12	10,155	--
" "previous week	3:05	4:03	58	11	9,205	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				5,924	2,688,181	136,273

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK JULY 9-14, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Brawley - G	12:15	3:00	3,625	875	--	7
Fort Valley - N	12:49	2:45	3,856	642	9	--
Forth Worth - V	12:30	1:30	394	394	--	--
Macon - V	2:51	5:44	4,085	992	--	--
TOTAL	1:06#	3:15#	11,960			
" previous week	1:36#	3:37#	13,997			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			926,392			

# Average time.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 -3,750,846.

INSPECTION SERVICE.

1c. RECEIPTED COPIES OF LETTERS OF TRANSMITTAL.

Receipted copies of letters of transmittal have been returned to the field offices, covering all accounts up to July 1. Each office should carefully examine these copies and, if any are missing, notify the Washington office promptly.

2c. BULLETIN AND GRADES PAMPHLET BEING DISTRIBUTED.

A copy of Department Bulletin No. 1149 is being mailed to each Inspector. The title of this bulletin is "Absorption and Retention of Hydrocyanic Acid by Fumigated Food Products."

Booklet containing "Washington Standards for Grading, Packing, Certification and Packages of Apples, Pears and Other Fruits, Season of 1923," also is being distributed to all offices.

3c. HOT WEATHER AFFECTS SEATTLE HEAD LETTUCE.

The Spokane office recently submitted the following newspaper item, which is headed "Seattle, Wash., July 6":-

"The extremely hot weather which this section of the Northwest has experienced for the last four or five days may, if it continues, curtail the carlot shipments of head lettuce. Some slime has developed in the Kent district which has caused the carlot shippers there to refuse many acres of lettuce from the growers. One shipper condemned for shipping nearly 200 acres near Kent which the grower had contracted to deliver to him.

"If this slime spreads further, which is likely if the hot weather continues, shippers are inclined to believe that the total estimate on the season's movement will be reduced materially. Early in the year the estimate on the probable carlot movement from the Puget Sound district was 1,200 cars, and this was later raised to 2,000 by some and to 1,800 by others.

"Since this cancellation of acreage, those who figured on a 2,000 car shipping crop are inclined to stop around 1,600 to 1,700 cars, while those figuring on the 1,800 level are now satisfied to figure on a 1,400 to 1,600 car crop.

"Unless the weather turns cooler, it is quite possible that more acreage will be affected by slime, although some of the other producing sections have enjoyed cooler weather in the last few days than has been the case for the Kent district proper. Notwithstanding these possibilities of a curtailed movement, the 1923 season is going to have no difficulty in establishing a new high record. The carlot movement through June 25 from the start of the season was 379 cars, as compared with but 82 cars in 1922 from the start of the season through June 24. To date the movement is over 450 cars."



4c. POTATO INSPECTIONS AT ORRICK, MO.

Two letters have been received from H. C. Miller, in charge of the potato inspection work around Orrick, Mo. The first is dated July 11 and the second July 16. Parts of these communications are printed below:

(July 11): "I mailed you today copies of certificates to date and you will note that the chief trouble with potatoes in this section is the excessive dirt, while the Early Chios are also showing quite a lot of growth cracks. The ground is now getting drier and should dig fairly clean within a short time.

"Practically all cars are sold f.o.b.-shipping-point, after inspection is made, and it is impossible for me to trace up the buyer and to whom the car is shipped. A large number of the cars are going to Chicago; so will get copies of certificates off to Chicago office at least every forty-eight hours.

"I hope to be able to handle the deal without any assistance and could easily do so, if it was not for the typing of certificates. I thought of mailing them into the Kansas City office but, owing to poor mail schedules, it would be at least forty-eight hours before applicant received his certificate and, as most sales are f.o.b. here, they want them promptly the following morning. Can get no work of this kind done at Orrick."

(July 16): "We had heavy rains last Wednesday and occasional showers since that time, which practically stopped digging until today. The ground is still wet and potatoes dug today in most fields are covered with mud, but the majority of growers feel that the market will soon drop and prefer to make allowances for the dirt rather than wait for the ground to dry enough to turn out good, clean stock.

"Most cars to date have been thrown out of grade on account of dirt, but no dissatisfaction whatever among the growers. They know they will not meet grade, but want inspection in order to build up the volume enough to assure inspection for another year.

"One of the large buyers from Kansas City is here. I have an engagement with him this afternoon and, if can induce him to demand U. S. No. 1 stock, think it will be beneficial to all parties concerned. Another buyer, is financially interested in many crops and also is a relative of many of the growers, and as he does not run any of his own potatoes over a grader they feel that it is likewise unprofitable for them to do so. He also had many rejections last week, so I may be able to change his ideas. The scarcity of labor is another feature that is against grading.

"The Cobblers are nice, smooth stock and, aside from the dirt, will easily meet grade, but look for considerable second growth and growth cracks on the Chios from this time on.

"It looks very much like rain again this morning and, if it should rain, there will be very little done before the latter part of the week."

5c. KAW VALLEY POTATO INSPECTIONS.

In letters of July 11 and 14, J. E. Hoover, supervising the shipping-point inspection of potatoes in the Kaw Valley, writes as follows:

(July 11): "The inspection work has now taken definite form and seems to be starting out in a very satisfactory way. The first two cars were inspected on Monday, July 9. On Tuesday we made 9 inspections and today inspected 12 cars. The volume will increase rapidly as the shipments increase, and I think we will have between 25 and 50 cars a day during the height of the shipping season. The last few days have been dry and hot, and the potatoes are ripening rapidly. They are still going out a little green and most cars show slightly to badly skinned, but by the first of next week the stock will be quite well matured. So far, the stock has been fairly clean, as a general rule, and if we do not have any heavy rains during the digging season it will continue that way. Practically all of the large growers in the county intend to have all shipments inspected and each grower is being very careful to make every car meet the grade. All cars inspected so far have met the grade in fine shape. The Cobblers are unusually smooth and well-shaped, and it requires very little picking to produce a No. 1 grade of stock. There are very few Ohios in this county and they are very poor, so I do not expect any request for inspections of this variety.

"I received your wire advising me that it would be satisfactory to give the growers at Perry some inspection service, if I could handle it without slighting the work in Shawnee County. The matter was taken up with the officers of the Potato Growers Association of this county and they are willing for me to extend the service to Perry. The crop around Perry is a little later and I do not expect it to start until next week, but I think we will get quite a little business over there at that time. I am sure that I will be able to handle it satisfactorily without slighting the work here to any extent whatever."

(July 14): "On account of rains which fell during the nights of July 11 and 12, there has been practically no digging the latter part of this week in the Topeka-Silver Lake section of the Kaw Valley. Down the valley toward Kansas City the rain fall was lighter and several growers were digging yesterday around Perry and Lawrence. We are having dry, hot weather again today and, by Monday of next week, the movement will begin again in heavy volume.

"Up to the present time we have inspected 31 cars, all of which have met U. S. Grade No. 1 requirements. The stock has been a little green, however, and we have been calling the stuff fairly well matured and adding that it was slightly skinned or badly skinned, as the case happened to be. The work is progressing in fine shape and next week, with good weather, we will have all we can possibly do. Yesterday, I talked with some of the larger growers around Perry and made arrangements with them to take care of the stock loaded between Topeka and Perry on the Union Pacific. This includes four small loading points, and a man can start out from Topeka each evening about 5 or 6 o'clock and work down the line to Perry and get everything that is loaded. This will give us between 50 and 100 more cars to inspect. The present indications are that we will get more cars inspected than we planned in the beginning."



6c. DATA ON NORTH CAROLINA AND NEW JERSEY INSPECTIONS.

W. C. Hackleman, Supervising Inspector in New York City, submitted the following information in a letter of July 17. It is of importance to all Inspectors in cities which may receive North Carolina peaches or New Jersey products. W. V. Stephens, mentioned in the last part of the letter, is in charge of the shipping-point work in New Jersey:

"Mr. Mercker, at Aberdeen, N. C., states that all the peaches shipped by the Sandhill Fruit Growers Assn., which grade U. S. Fancy 1 or U. S. No. 1, will be labeled 'Sandhill Chief of All Peaches' and stamped with the grade, variety and pack. The stock not meeting either of these grades will not be labeled and will generally be shipped to nearby points by express. He states that any stock bearing this label can be safely assumed to have been inspected and passed as up to grade at shipping point.

"About ten cars of Carmans had been inspected by July 12 and they estimated the total quantity to be inspected to be between 175 and 200 cars. They are also inspecting stock shipped by a large dealer named Evans. I believe the initials are A. J. This stock was being shipped under the 'Ecco' brand, but the brand may be changed to 'Blue Goose' as this is being sold by the American Fruit Growers. The Standard Growers Exchange is to handle the Sandhill Association's stock.

"Mr. Mercker states that there is considerable blemished fruit but growers are getting most of it well culled out before packing. The chief blemishes appearing are Bacterial Spot, Hail Injury and Insect Injury.

"Mr. Stephens reports that the first cars of apples were shipped from New Jersey about the middle of last week. The Jersey Fruit Growers' Association, is the shipper of practically all the inspected stock. The No. 1 stock is labeled 'Jersey/Jerry', the No. 2 stock 'Domestic'. It is being sized on a quarter-inch basis and the minimum size stamped on the lids of the baskets. A telegraphic report of the cars sent to points in the vicinities of the cities where we have leased wire stations is furnished to these markets daily by Mr. Dilts and, in addition, the local inspectors will send post-card notices to inspectors in other cities when cars are shipped to those markets."

6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. SHIPPING-POINT WORK IN NEBRASKA.

The closing paragraph of Mr. Westgate's letter of July 10 had to be omitted from Page 309 of this Division Letter; so that paragraph is printed below:-

"Am busy training inspectors in the Kearney district. Started a school on Monday for 6 inspectors who will work in this nearby territory, extending from Odessa (12 miles west) to Shelton (20 miles east). This district includes the heaviest loading points of the early Nebraska movement. Some shipments will be from Gothenburg on the west to places along the Platte Valley eastward, perhaps as far as Fremont, before the first of September, or in other words before the fall movement starts".



7c. TOTAL INSPECTIONS DURING FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1923.

The following table shows the total number of inspections handled by each office during the fiscal year 1923. This does not include inspections for the Navy or Marine Corps. The grand total of 28,169 inspections is about 10% less than the total for the fiscal year 1922, due partly to the change in handling of railroad inspections.

Total Fruit and Vegetable Inspections, 1922-1923.

STATION.	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total
Atlanta.....	44	33	69	51	57	60	30	63	61	46	23	26	563
Baltimore.....	55	36	60	51	48	32	33	36	30	46	51	64	542
Boston.....	126	80	69	97	86	75	94	92	88	116	121	110	1154
Buffalo.....	59	36	11	51	55	26	35	29	38	63	85	79	567
Chicago.....	252	239	202	328	360	267	268	295	311	271	235	229	3257
Cincinnati...	30	29	80	63	83	49	24	57	68	59	58	78	678
Cleveland....	152	145	76	70	68	50	60	85	83	162	150	165	1266
Columbus.....	37	30	25	27	26	31	16	20	22	26	80	109	449
Denver.....	16	5	5	8	3	3	2	5	7	26	8	15	103
Detroit.....	178	95	46	76	49	37	58	63	75	129	245	171	1222
Erie.....	--	--	1	0	0	0	1	6	3	2	3	--	16
Fort Worth...	--	--	--	22	31	48	43	30	18	--	--	--	192
Harrisburg...	3	1	5	1	4	6	3	3	7	1	5	7	46
Houston.....	--	--	--	16	29	28	37	51	44	30	--	--	235
Indianapolis..	41	35	37	34	50	39	20	32	31	38	46	47	450
Kansas City..	28	34	80	74	68	60	46	77	72	111	89	52	791
Los Angeles..	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	4	10	13	0	0	30
Memphis.....	47	29	35	47	56	35	27	52	43	21	22	27	441
Milwaukee...	62	62	105	112	117	81	53	48	59	53	72	40	864
Minneapolis..	43	52	63	92	70	53	68	92	78	62	35	62	770
New Haven....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	25	25
New Orleans..	63	117	107	121	92	85	50	84	51	63	48	68	949
New York.....	384	217	258	633	479	332	343	361	413	518	423	403	4764
Norfolk.....	4	18	35	33	26	9	23	26	20	12	19	18	243
Omaha.....	4	12	17	17	31	41	34	23	60	43	18	16	316
Philadelphia..	228	82	205	409	679	297	231	217	229	215	327	239	3358
Pittsburgh...	376	132	99	188	249	122	114	111	145	189	253	249	2227
St. Louis....	167	125	163	204	195	146	109	95	225	163	117	170	1879
San Francisco	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	3	0	0	6
Washington...	68	41	75	42	58	39	39	45	37	28	56	30	558
Wichita.....	--	--	--	--	--	6	10	12	24	--	--	--	52
Wilkes-Barre..	16	11	16	10	13	6	3	12	15	17	17	20	156
TOTAL	2483	1696	1944	2877	3082	2064	1879	2126	2367	2526	2606	2519	28169

## - Explanatory Notes -

A dash (--) means that no Inspector was located at the station so marked during the months thus indicated.

A zero means that no commercial inspections were handled by the office during the months thus indicated.

Inspection work was not started at Erie, Pa. until September 1922, and at New Haven this work was not begun until June 1923.

Most of the work at San Francisco is done for the Navy.



8c. INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING YEAR ENDING JUNE, 1923.

During the past fiscal year 37,632,581 lbs. of fruit and vegetables were inspected for the Navy and the Marine Corps at 7 naval bases, as follows:

Navy Inspections, 1922-1923.

(All figures represent pounds)

MONTH	Boston	New York	Norfolk	Phila- delphia	San Diego	San Fran.	San Pedro	TOTAL
July	181425	328119	--	569905	420692	1011557	107584	2619282
Aug.	128598	552911	570663	371468	402081	300325	30109	2356155
Sept.	102503	493775	94494	363062	446593	638295	443511	2582233
Oct.	164882	567562	836719	305110	498229	74404	712399	3159305
Nov.	270836	380007	0	348897	551647	307480	819784	2678651
Dec.	731036	509456	0	792377	556832	303876	906008	3799585
Jan.	182777	333621	1732521	120003	667203	1798833	740319	5575277
Feb.	102803	185783	0	201186	908218	358349	723536	2479875
March	138931	430506	0	116408	144522	199238	26618	1056223
April	190369	243403	0	143240	423120	186393	702837	1889362
May	465713	478975	0	286623	528187	357753	1402792	3520043
June	245154	337391	76064	264797	355833	1003889	225711	2508839
TOTAL	2905027	4841509	3310461	3883076	5903157	6540392	6841208	34224830

## Inspections for Marine Corps.

July	1211	231502	--	21119	13484	--	--	267316
Aug.	4391	245817	--	21147	16105	--	--	287460
Sept.	3705	281270	--	12611	18371	--	--	315957
Oct.	10946	213260	--	23695	15572	--	--	263473
Nov.	10936	231592	--	17007	22920	--	--	282455
Dec.	3260	192230	--	13624	31089	--	--	240203
Jan.	7183	248515	--	19293	40560	--	--	315551
Feb.	7590	205817	--	15850	72939	--	--	302196
March	7920	210564	--	24449	64634	--	--	307567
April	4660	227816	--	18976	29887	--	--	281339
May	8352	208973	--	18671	24297	--	--	260293
June	12463	222525	--	18006	30947	--	--	283941
TOTAL	82617	2719881	--	224448	380805	--	--	3407751

GRAND TOTAL	2987644	7561390	3310461	4107524	6283962	6540392	6841208	37632581
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Of all the produce inspected for the Navy 2,206,464 pounds were rejected, and 120,336 pounds were cut. Rejections for the Marine Corps amounted to 91,032 pounds, and 10,788 pounds were cut. Rejections for the Navy were about 7 per cent of the total, and rejections for the Marine Corps less than 3 per cent.

Total fruits and vegetables inspected during the past three fiscal years are as follows:

	1920-21	1921-22	1922-23
Navy.....	29,880,376	30,884,473	34,224,830
Marine Corps..	1,332,472	3,555,543	3,407,751
Total .....	31,212,848	34,440,016	37,632,581

These figures do not include inspections for the U. S. Shipping Board, the U. S. Lines, the Munson Line, or any hospitals.



9c. RELATIVE NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS.

The Inspection Service was started in November, 1917. The following tabulation shows the relative amount of work done each fiscal year since that time:

<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>ending June 30</u>	<u>Stations operated during</u> <u>all or part of the year</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>inspections</u>
1918.....	30 .....	6,069
1919.....	33 .....	14,493
1920.....	29 .....	25,488
1921.....	29 .....	23,877
1922.....	30 .....	31,207
1923.....	32 .....	28,169

During the past year, the offices ranked as follows with respect to the volume of work handled,- not including Navy work:

<u>Inspections, Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1923</u>							
New York....	4,764	New Orleans...	949	Baltimore....	542	Wilkes-Barre..	156
Philadelphia	3,358	Milwaukee.....	864	Indianapolis.	450	Denver.....	103
Chicago.....	3,257	Kansas City...	791	Columbus.....	449	Wichita.....	52
Pittsburgh..	2,227	Minneapolis...	770	Memphis.....	441	Harrisburg....	46
St. Louis...	1,879	Cincinnati....	678	Omaha.....	316	Los Angeles...	30
Cleveland...	1,266	Buffalo.....	567	Norfolk.....	243	New Haven.....	25
Detroit.....	1,222	Atlanta.....	563	Houston.....	235	Erie.....	16
Boston.....	1,154	Washington....	558	Fort Worth...	192	San Francisco.	6

First Four Offices:

<u>Fiscal Year 1920</u>	<u>Fiscal Year 1921</u>	<u>Fiscal Year 1922</u>
Chicago... 4,115	Pittsburgh 4,412	Phila..... 5,196
Pittsburgh 3,894	Phila..... 3,351	Pittsburgh 4,375
New York.. 2,036	New York.. 2,717	New York.. 4,262
Phila..... 1,740	Chicago... 2,671	Chicago... 4,120

10c. PROGRESS OF INSPECTION WORK IN GEORGIA.

The following additional letter was written by E. E. Conklin, Jr., at Fort Valley, Ga., on July 16:

"During the week of July 9 to 14 inclusive, we made 60 joint State and Federal inspections. This makes a total of 192 cars to date.

"The Hiley Belles have cleaned up and the Georgia Belles have been ripening slowly. However, they are coming on fast now and will be practically moved by the last of this week (July 21). The Georgia Belles are not as good quality as the Hileys were. Because of the slow ripening, many have been picked green and the size is only fair. Color is generally pale and worms are quite bad in scattering orchards, although in most there are no worms. The Elbertas are getting under way today and the heaviest movement probably will be over from the 25th to the 28th in the Fort Valley section.

"We probably will inspect about 100 cars a week during the next two weeks, after which the deal will be over."



11c. PEACH INSPECTIONS IN NORTH CAROLINA.

Writing from Aberdeen, N. C., on July 15, Robert Bier reports as follows concerning the peach inspection work which he and Mr. Mercker are handling in that territory:

"We have inspected every car that has rolled from this section since I have been down here; 13 grand total. We will inspect 15 this week and 150 to 175 next week. The Association has 90% of the tonnage and we inspect every car they ship.

"The Sandhill Fruit Growers Association ship everything under the 'Sandhill Chief of all Peaches' brand. Each carrier is labeled and marked with brand, variety, pack and grade. Any car that has the brand mentioned above, inspectors may be assured has been inspected down here. Car cards are placed in all cars.

"The Belles will start in a small way about the 18th, getting heavy around July 22 or 23. I look for this deal to be over by the last of July. There are only a few cars of Elbertas and Hales in the whole section.

"Just as soon as I can see Mr. Scott, I am hoping to be able to add the A. F. G. tonnage. If I succeed, we will be inspecting every car of peaches out of this section. Mr. Scott is expected here today. It is a small deal for them. I doubt whether they will have over 60 cars of peaches altogether.

"You can place the total tonnage (including L.C.L. express) of North Carolina peaches at 300 cars, and not over 350 cars. They had estimated their Carmans at 40 cars. They actually shipped 12, with possibly 8 by express in L. C. L. lots, making 20 altogether. Their Belles estimate of 250 cars is too high. It looks like 200 to me. I hope I am fooled because I want the tonnage."

12c. KEARNEY, NEBR., POTATO INSPECTIONS.

V. V. Westgate, in charge of the inspections of potatoes in the Kearney district of Nebraska, wrote as follows in a letter of July 10:

"I do not believe there will be any cars of potatoes shipped from this district before the first of next week unless the present market should show a noticeable weakening tendency. If this happens, digging will begin at once.

"The Potato Growers Association does not intend to do any digging before the 15th. The manager of this association claims to have 90% of the crop contracted, but I believe his statement is rather high.

"The crop is later than usual this season. Every year potatoes have been started out of this section shortly after the Fourth of July. However, the growers have found that this very early, immature stock does not carry to market in a satisfactory manner, and will hold off digging as long as general conditions justify.

"Irrigated stock is making a good tuber growth at the present time. The bulk of the crop here is grown under irrigation. There is, however, a considerable scattering of dry-land potatoes. These are needing rain rather badly. It has been showering a little this evening and the Valley may get a good rain. I do not think a good rain will cause much of a second-growth development at the present time, although it would probably do so if it should come a week or ten days later."

Wm. E. Lewis,

Inspector.



OFFICE NOTES:

Robert M. Ferguson, of Wisconsin, has been appointed as an Assistant Marketing Specialist, effective July 23. He will report in Chicago for training in inspection work. Mr. Ferguson was graduated from the High School in Superior, Wis., and has taken business and other correspondence courses. He was actively engaged in the wholesale produce business, with other firms and for himself. Later, he was employed as salesman for a large fruit company in Superior, and during the past two years has been marketing an automobile accessory. His most recent position has been with Morris & Co., at Duluth, Minn.

Floyd S. Zimmerman, of Washington, also has received appointment as an Assistant Marketing Specialist. He will join the Inspector's training class in Chicago next week. Mr. Zimmerman's high school training was received in Everett, Wash. After specializing in Horticulture at the Washington State Agricultural College, he obtained the B. S. degree in 1918. Since that date he has had extensive experience in orchard work and fruit growing, being on the State staff in Washington during recent years. Part of his time has been given to the supervision of orchard pest control and to the investigation of apple package costs. At one time, Mr. Zimmerman was in charge of inspections of grades and packs of fruit at Chelan, Wash., and of inspections of fruits in Okanogan and Douglas Counties. He also did special work in fruit disease and pest control for Washington State College.

Another Assistant Marketing Specialist to be appointed is Solomon H. Fountain, of California. He will report for duty in Chicago about July 23. Mr. Fountain graduated from the Dixon Union High School in 1911, and completed a 2½ years' agricultural course in the University of California. After leaving the University, he became manager of his father's ranch at Dixon, Calif., and for 8 years was engaged in the production and marketing of almonds, pears, prunes, peaches, olives, grapes, oranges, grain and alfalfa, most of these products being shipped to the East. For about six months of the war, Mr. Fountain was in military service.

Roy C. Lindstrom, of Minnesota, will take the training as an Inspector in Chicago, following his appointment as Assistant Marketing Specialist, effective July 23. He was graduated from the Sandstone, Minn., high school in 1916. Mr. Lindstrom was employed for a long period as assistant city traffic man for two large fruit houses in Minneapolis. From 1915 to 1919, he was associated with the Moorhead Inspection Bureau, as inspector of fruits and vegetables in carlots on arrival in Minneapolis and St. Paul. He also was an instructor in the proper methods of loading and storing produce, as as to prevent freezing, overheating, and breakage of containers, this work being done largely at shipping points, two seasons of such service being rendered in the State of Washington and one season in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Arkansas. Mr. Lindstrom has had experience in buying fruits and vegetables in nearly all the southern and middlewestern States while employed by C. H. Robinson Co., 1919 to 1921. His latest position has been with the Beasman Fruit Co., Minneapolis, as an inspector and jobbing salesman.



OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Cornelius R. Newton, also of California, is the next to have received appointment as Assistant Marketing Specialist. He, too, is expected to take the Inspector's training in Chicago, starting next week. Mr. Newton attended school at Alice, Texas. From 1898 to 1901 he was a student at the New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts. He was granted a teacher's certificate by the Commissioner of Education of Porto Rico in 1902. Since the latter part of 1921 he has been a law student at the University of Southern California. Mr. Newton has had considerable experience in Mexico and Porto Rico. In the former country he did stenographic work, and in Porto Rico he was connected with the Experiment Station. Later, he was employed as stenographer in English and Spanish in the Supreme Court of Porto Rico and also served the Attorney General in that island. Mr. Newton operated a grapefruit and pineapple plantation for many years and inaugurated the first cooperative packing association in Porto Rico in 1913, in which association he held responsible executive positions. At a later date, he became packing house manager for the Porto Rico Fruit Exchange, and had entire charge of the erection and operation of new packing houses for the Exchange, including a uniform system of grading and packing. He advanced to one of the highest positions in this Exchange. Mr. Newton returned to the United States in 1920, and has since resided in Los Angeles. His latest work has been with the American Fruit Growers, Inc., in that city, selling their products on a brokerage basis.

The five men whose appointments have been listed above will constitute the new training class for Inspectors, to be started in Chicago on Monday. This probably will be the last class which Dr. Dean H. Rose, of B.P.I., will have a share in instructing, as he is expected to leave Chicago for Washington by the end of this month. Carl C. Lindegren, an Assistant Pathologist of B.P.I., will be associated hereafter with the Chicago office, in addition to Dr. G.K.K. Link and Glen B. Ramsey, Pathologists.

Mr. Sherman was in Denver yesterday and planned to be in Kearney, Nebr., today. Mr. Samson left Spokane for Chicago on Monday. He probably will spend a day in Chicago and reach Washington by the end of this week.

W. C. Hangstafer, Inspector on the Philadelphia staff, is on leave from July 16 to August 2. A. W. Moloney, Navy Inspector in New York, will start on leave next Monday, to be away until August 9.

Mr. Robb left Sunday for Caribou, Maine, where he conferred on Tuesday with representatives of the Maine Potato Growers' Exchange and representatives of the Federated Fruit and Vegetable Growers, regarding the fall and winter inspection work at shipping points in that territory. On his return trip, he expected to stop off at Boston on Wednesday and New York today. He probably will be back at his desk Friday.

Employees connected with the Market News Service during its early history will be glad to learn of the marriage of Miss Faith L. Yeaw, on the original market news staff, to John B. Manley, Jr., in this city last Saturday. Their future home will be in Raymond, New Hampshire. Miss Yeaw recently was employed in the offices of the Federal Coal Commission.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Appointments at a moderate salary have been given two men closely related to the large eastern auctions, in order that the News Service may obtain prompt and reliable auction reports on deciduous fruits. One of these appointees is Samuel Leitzer, of New York, who publishes the New York Daily Fruit Reporter. The other is E. J. Garlick, of Philadelphia, publisher of the Philadelphia Produce Market Reporter.

B. S. Jones, Inspector in St. Louis, is obliged to be off duty on account of illness. B. E. Rowell, of the Chicago office, was sent to St. Louis on Monday to handle the inspection work during Mr. Jones' absence.

Mr. Stillwell is in Pittsburgh today, on his return trip to Washington. He expects to be at his desk again Friday, July 20.

Having come from Philadelphia on Tuesday, F. H. Scruggs spent a good part of that day in the Washington office and left that evening for Macon, Ga., where he eventually will take over the reporting service on watermelons, thereby relieving Mr. Evers for another assignment.

Paul M. Williams reached Washington this morning, after his recent investigational trip through the South.

Friday of last week was spent by F. M. Patton in Philadelphia, conferring with officials rendering reports of shipments.

Friends of M. S. Wiggins, who was on the Market News field force for many years, will be glad to learn that he is now Sales Manager of the Sanford Division of Chase & Company, at Sanford, Fla.

Definite word has been received from R. L. Ringer that the Portland office will be in Room 112, Citizens Bank Building.

The Fort Worth office has already had its number changed from 1912 to 1915 F. & M. Bank Bldg. Please remember this slight change in the number.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D.C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 30

July 26, 1923

(Contents Confidential)

1a. PROJECT SYMBOL NUMBERS ON VOUCHERS.

In connection with paragraph 9 of "The B.A.E. News" of July 24, pointing out various requirements which are sometimes overlooked in connection with the submission of vouchers, our attention has been called to the necessity of showing the project symbol number in a prominent place on the voucher. It has been suggested that the space on the extreme right of the appropriation line is the most desirable place to indicate this number. The project symbol number refers to the fund under which the expenditure is made and may be determined in any instance by reference to the Letter of Allotment, which provides funds under the Letter of Authorization. The various project numbers relating to the lines of work of the Fruit and Vegetable Division were stated in paragraph 2a of the Division Letter for June 28, 1923.

It is recommended that the seven-page memorandum regarding Letters of Authorization sent out by the Bureau about July 1 be studied carefully, as the failure to show all essential facts on vouchers which are submitted is likely to result in the return of the voucher and consequent delay in payment. It should be borne in mind that under the present arrangement all vouchers go direct to the Bureau Accounting Office and are not submitted to the Fruit and Vegetable Division administrative office for examination until after they are found to be in proper form.

2a. MARKETING OF MUSHROOMS.

In reply to a recent inquiry concerning the importation and marketing of mushrooms, O. D. Miller, of the New York office, wrote the following:

"The Federal Horticultural Board has placed no quarantine on the importation of mushrooms. As for the kinds of mushrooms in demand, your classification of 'birch or pine' is not a common one on this market. The prevailing type of mushroom on the New York market is the white spawn. In a fresh state, they are shipped in climax baskets with a capacity of about six quarts, which hold about three pounds of mushrooms. This is a type of basket commonly used for shipping eastern grapes. The usual diameter of the pileus is from  $1\frac{1}{4}$  to 2 inches, and the stalk is about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in diameter. They are simply piled loose in the baskets, which are then covered with a wooden lid.

"Your questions and these answers refer to the shipping of fresh mushrooms, while the first paragraph of your letter states that you contemplate importing dried mushrooms. Practically all of the dried mushrooms imported to this market are packed in tin boxes, containing from three to five pounds. The three-pound container is about fourteen inches long, six inches high, and six inches wide, and the five-pound container is comparatively larger. The mushrooms are sliced and dried before packing. Some mushrooms are imported also in another form, - sliced, dried, and strung in the manner of figs and garlic."



3a. DECIDUOUS FRUIT SITUATION IN CALIFORNIA.

C. E. Schultz, in charge of the field station at Sacramento, began on July 21 to issue a special weekly review of conditions in that territory. The closing part of his first review, which has just been received, summarizes the markets of the week for plums, pears and peaches. The opening paragraphs of the review contain the following general statements which will be of interest to all employees of the F & V. Division:-

The deciduous fruit crops in California have been generally earlier than normal in ripening this year. The low temperatures experienced this spring, instead of retarding the maturity of fruits, apparently had the opposite effect. The pear movement is estimated to have been about two weeks early, plums around three weeks, and peaches about one week ahead of last season.

Approximately one third of the pear crop is estimated to have been marketed by this time. The movement of Elberta peaches is just getting under way, while plums have passed the peak and shipments are now declining rapidly. Early table grapes have been moving out of the southern part of the State for several weeks, but the movement of Thompsons has just started from the central districts.

Cool weather in June caused the spread of mildew among some grape sections, especially in the San Joaquin Valley. The extent of damage due to this cause has not as yet been definitely determined but, according to the Agricultural Statistician, reports of damage ranging from 5% to 40% have been received from districts where mildew is prevalent. The quality of the peach, plum, and pear crops is said to be very good this year. Elberta peaches are running to the larger sizes in the northern part of the State, pears and plums being normal in this respect.

Shipments of deciduous fruits from California to date this year are given as follows: Peaches 630 cars; Pears 2514 cars; Plums 4237. Comparative figures are not available at the present time.

Canners of the State are reporting a heavy carry-over of last year's supply of canned fruits. As a result of this fact, reductions in the prices paid by canneries have been announced recently. Unofficial reports indicate that the canners' prices for best grade cling peaches have been reduced from \$45 to \$30 per ton, and best grade freestones from \$35 to \$25 per ton. Similarly the price of #1 Bartlett pears to canners has been reduced from \$50 to \$35 per ton. These prices are said to be very low from the growers' standpoint and may possibly augment shipments of these commodities to markets in the fresh state. It is of striking significance in this connection that, with peaches particularly, only a relatively small portion of the total crop moves in interstate shipments. Last year the total shipments of Northern California peaches, reported to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics by the carriers, were 9033 cars. Of this amount, only 2315 cars moved out of the State as fresh fruit. Similarly the total pear shipments from Northern California last year were 6296 cars, while 5625 of these moved as interstate shipments.



TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTSMarket News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will close
✓ MACON, GA.* Hotel Macon	875	J. D. Evers F. H. Scruggs	W-Melons	July 11	Aug. 18
✓ SACRAMENTO, CALIF.* Room 27, Mull Bldg.	918	C. E. Schultz	Pears Peaches Pl. & Pr. Grapes	July 17 July 17 July 17 July 30	Oct. 1 Oct. 1 Sept. 15 Nov. 1
KEARNEY, NEBR.* Federal Bldg.	930	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	July 23	Aug. 15
CORNELIA, GA.*	934	A. E. Prugh	Peaches	July 30	Aug. 10

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

KENNETT, MO.	819	H. S. Stiles	W-Melons	Aug. 1	Aug. 22
CALDWELL, IDA.	928	R. H. Lamb	Potatoes	Aug. 1	Sept. 15
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.*	846	W. J. Bertush	Peaches Potatoes Apples	Aug. 6 Aug. 6 Sept. 1	Sept. 15 Nov. 1 Nov. 1
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.*	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Peaches Grapes Apples Potatoes	Aug. 15 Aug. 15 Aug. 15 Sept. 15	Sept. 15 Oct. 15 Oct. 15 Oct. 15
ROCKY FORD, COLO.	821	R. H. Lamb	Cants.	Aug. 29	Sept. 29

The following station closes on date indicated:

FORT VALLEY, GA.* Citizens Bank Bldg.	833	A. E. Prugh	Peaches	June 5	<u>CLOSED</u> July 28
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\* State Department cooperating.  
R. H. Shoemaker in Fort Worth office.  
V. D. Callanan in San Francisco office.  
G. E. Prince in New York office.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR JULY 21.

Material in the July 21 issue of Weather, Crops and Markets which will interest Fruit and Vegetable employees is listed below:

- Page 57 - Summary of markets for the week ending July 14.
- 58 - Estimated commercial acreage, yield and production of early water-melons, intermediate onions, second-early potatoes, intermediate cantaloupes, and of snap beans for canning.
- Filler on potato crop in Canada.
- 59 - Onion Acreage in New York, Ohio and Indiana.
- New Jersey Celery Starts to Market.
- Cabbage and onions in Wisconsin.
- 64 - France to Study Agriculture in the Colonies.
- 69 - Cold Storage Holdings of lemons, July 1.
- 70 - Filler on apple movement from Nova Scotia.
- 71 - Weekly review with special paragraph on Elberta peaches; table of carload shipments and prices at shipping points.
- 72 - Arrivals and prices at city markets.
- Fruit and Vegetable Inspections during June.
- Imperial Valley Cantaloupes Closing Successful Season, - by Mr. Callanan.
- 73 - Filler on strawberries from Louisiana.
- Index Useful in Assembling Crop Information.
- Texas Tomato Deal Successful, - by Mr. Mosier.
- New field stations.
- Fruit and Vegetable Shipments Reported by Carriers.
- 74 - Carlot shipments of fruits and vegetables by States, for month of June.
- 84 - Great Britain Dependent on Agricultural Imports.
- Canadian Apples Sent to British Malaya.
- Habana to Hold Industrial Fair.
- Filler on potato growers in Ireland.
- 85 - List of new publications issued.
- 86 - Effect of the weather on crops.

2b. EARLY POTATOES FROM IDAHO.

The Portland office is now in active operation, and Mr. Ringer submitted the following information in a letter of July 18:

"Practically none of Idaho's early crop of potatoes will move westward this year. On account of 48 hours of continuous rain July 5 and 6, the non-irrigated sections of Oregon and Washington have fine early potatoes this season, the first time in several years. Ordinarily each town and city of those two States takes from 1 to 25 carloads of Idaho stock during July and August; so it will mean that much released to move eastward.

"One car was brought here last week. It cost \$2.75 per cwt. here, and the dealers were forced to clean it up at \$2.50 because of the large amount of homegrowns, - many of them better than those shipped in, - which showed up on the market this week."



3b. A NEW MELON IN TEXAS.

Writing from Fort Worth, under date of July 19, R. H. Shoemaker sent the following interesting report of the watermelon deal in North Texas and of a new melon which has been propagated in that district:

"My Fort Worth watermelon f.o.b. reports of July 16 and 17 contained the statement 'stock mostly rolled for sale at destination.' In explanation of same, I might say that the stock is of very fine quality this season. Further, it was believed by shippers that, because of the condition of the market, the stock would sell for more after the buyer on the market saw it, than it would f.o.b. Weatherford. For this reason the shippers had decided to gamble with it.

"Mr. J. R. Flemming, of Weatherford, is the first shipper that I know of who is making an attempt to grade his melons. He has had constructed six trucks, each with a capacity of about 1,000 pounds of melons. These are the usual warehouse trucks, with padded burlap bottoms to prevent bruising of melons. The sides are made of iron frames, and the whole connected to the base of the truck. The sides are covered with burlap, to prevent the melons from falling out. It is planned to unload melons from one farmer's wagon into three of these trucks, in order to get a better assorting as to size. In other words, instead of loading directly from the grower's wagon into the car, the melons are assorted into three sizes, and each size is placed in a separate car. The day I was at Weatherford the melons had not started coming, but Mr. Flemming is very optimistic as to the workability of the plan, as well as the idea that the financial results will be such as to more than repay him for the one extra handling of the melons. This is the first time that I have ever heard of anyone trying to do anything in the way of grading melons, and thought that it might be of interest to you. Of course, this is really not grading, but sizing.

"I have made arrangements to have shipped to you Monday, by American Railway Express, a crate of PARKER'S HONEY BALL melons. This is a flat crate, not a standard. I believe it measures 22"x 16," so you will see it is not the usual western flat. For this reason, I would suggest that you remove the cantaloupes and turn the crate over to the standardization section. Everyone here calls the melons 'cantaloupes.' However, they are more of a 'Honey Dew' than they are a 'cantaloupe.' The melon has been termed 'Parker's Honey Ball' in honor of the propagator, a farmer near here by the name of Parker. It is supposed to be a cross between a 'Honey Dew' melon and a cantaloupe. According to Mr. Adkins, of the Adkins-Bird Co., local brokers here, there will be about 20 cars shipped to different markets this season. The movement is now on. I understand that a considerable proportion of the crop will be saved for seed, and that quite a bit of seed was sold in the Lower Valley and Rocky Ford last season. I have had several portions of these melons served to me at local restaurants, and they taste more like a Honey Dew than a cantaloupe, having flesh eatable down to a thin rind. The only difference I can see is that they almost always cut sweet and nice, while with a Honey Dew you have to be very particular about the maturity if you are to have a good-tasting melon. This melon of course has the advantage of being small-sized; they are packed 12 to the flat crate. Mr. Adkins, who has the handling of the crop, states that they may be left in a dealer's store for two weeks without going down, as a cantaloupe will."



4b. EXPRESS NUMBER OF PACKAGES IN FIGURES.

When wiring auction reports, please send number of packages in numerals instead of English. For example, instead of saying "five hundred fourteen boxes", send it: "514 boxes." This method will save considerable time in transmitting the auction reports, and, while the chances for errors are slightly increased, it is not believed that the actual number of errors will be large.

5b. CONDITIONS IN SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY.

In a recent letter, E. R. Biddle, of the Philadelphia office, tells of a second trip he made through the southern part of New Jersey:

"On Wednesday, July 18, I made a trip through part of the southern New Jersey potato belt and was somewhat surprised by the developments of the past two weeks. Where, at the time of my last visit, there was considerable optimism as to the outcome of the crop, there is now considerable pessimism. As was to be expected, the poorest fields are now being dug with extremely poor returns, the yield as a rule being less than 20 barrels to the acre. This is mostly stock grown from Maine seed, but some diggings of fields planted with late-grown home stock show promise of but little better yield. It seems that, although the vines have remained green and have continued to grow, the tubers are showing but little further development. The set is very light; some vines do not show any tubers. These are the results so far, but I cannot help but believe that somewhat better yields will be reported later in the season.

"Practically all the large shippers whom I visited estimated the crop at about 50% of last year's. There was one exception, and this man said that, while he believed that the Southern District would show a yield of nearly 70% of a crop, he was of the opinion that the Cobblers in the Hightstown-Freehold section would yield but little over 30% of a crop.

"In my letter of July 9, I said that the deal would probably get under way this week, but the drop in the market, which has caused the price offered the grower to be around \$2.50 bulk per cwt., has checked the movement. Very few growers are willing to begin digging for less than \$3. At present the general attitude is to hold off until about Aug. 1, so that the Eastern Shore crop will be almost entirely out of the way. I believe that this will hold true generally, unless there is a decided advance in prices.

"In my other letter, I also spoke of the abnormal condition of the early tomato market. Since then there seems to have been no limit to prices obtained for good stock, and prices of small lots of very good stock last Friday and Saturday (July 13-14) ranged from \$7 to \$8 per 5/8 bushel basket, with the general market ranging \$4.50-6.50. As I said before, there is a fairly heavy setting on the branches and this stock is beginning to ripen, so that prices are gradually coming down, but are still far from normal. The wide range in price is due entirely to the lack of any attempt to grade the stock on the part of some growers and the good condition of other shipments."

E. W. STILLWELL,

Specialist in Market News.



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK JULY 16-21, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Philadelphia-Misc. R	2:18	2:37	19	18	13,300	475
New York - Misc.GNR	1:50	2:17	27	17	6,221	2,595
Atlanta - Misc.	11:18	11:46	28	10	1,072	--
Washington- Misc.	1:27	2:20	53	10	2,265	--
Boston - Misc.	12:34	2:33	119	10	3,300	200
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Minneapolis- Misc. R	12:53	1:10	17	18	3,630	132
Chicago- Misc.	12:01	12:21	20	15	6,000	1,000
St. Louis - Misc.	12:35	12:58	23	12	3,940	350
Cincinnati- Misc.	1:56	2:20	24	10	4,510	650
Pittsburgh- Misc.	11:18	11:43	25	10	2,057	49
Kansas City- Misc.R. HONEY	11:47	1:23	96	10	8,240	1,305
Washington-(Nat'l)GNPRV #5 P'nuts.Honey.Ship.Inf.73					30,429	1,035
TOTAL	12:43#	1:24#	41#	213	84,964	7,791
" previous week	12:48#	1:21#	33#	203	73,602	5,099
<u>WESTERN OFFICES(July 9-14)</u>						
Los Angeles-Misc.R,Ship.3:47	4:59		72	19	16,475	--
Portland-Misc.LM	2:50	3:45	55	10	555	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				6,166	2,790,175	144,064

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK JULY 16-21, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Ft.Valley - N	12:53	2:43	3,892	649	1	--
Ft.Worth - V	12:42	1:19	2,428	605	59	--
Macon - V	1:59	4:20	6,637	1,074	8	--
TOTAL	1:11#	2:46#	12,957			
" previous week	1:06#	3:15#	11,960			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			939,349			

# Average time.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 -3,873,588.

INSPECTION SERVICE.1c. POTATO INSPECTIONS IN MISSOURI.

Two more letters have been received from H. C. Miller, supervising the inspection of potatoes at Orrick, Mo. They are dated July 19 and 23, respectively:

(July 19)-"The recent break in the potato market has been of great assistance. Some of the growers have stopped digging altogether until the ground gets drier, while those that are digging are running their potatoes over a grader and extremely anxious to make them meet requirements of U.S. No. 1. Out of 10 inspections made yesterday, 5 were up to grade and 3 of the others had only some sacks dug in low places in the field that kept them out of grade. The Cobblers are running good, but the Ohios show too much second-growth and growth-cracks, and they positively will not leave them out of the sacks."

(July 23)- "I have been extremely busy for past few days, and total inspections to date amount to 83, but on account of the slump in the market most of the growers have stopped digging and shipments will be light for a few days. The majority of shipments since last Thursday have been by growers that had their crops sold under contracts, but they are now practically through digging.

"Potatoes are now coming out of the ground in fairly good shape, and growers are steadily improving their grades. They are slowly but surely realizing that they cannot continue shipping field-run and poorly-graded stock. From present outlook, I should get at least a total of 200 inspections and possibly more."

2c. CONDITIONS IN KAW VALLEY POTATO DISTRICT.

On July 23, J. H. Hoover, at Topeka, wrote as follows concerning the shipping-point inspection of potatoes:

"Up to date, we have inspected 215 cars of potatoes. The movement was heavy up to Thursday last week, but some of the growers quit digging Thursday night for the balance of the week on account of the poor market conditions. They are all digging again this morning and I look for a heavier movement this week. We are having dry hot weather and the stock is now coming out fairly clean and smooth, and the shipments for the coming week probably will be the best quality of the season. After the first of August the stock will deteriorate a little in quality on account of the extremely hot weather.

"I have been using three inspectors, besides myself, but am starting another man this morning and expect to put one more man on the middle of this week. Since the market broke last week, practically all orders are specifying 'U.S. Grade No. 1' and the inspection work probably will be heavier from now on."



### 3c. CROP CONDITIONS IN THE NORTHWEST.

The Spokane office sent in the following mimeographed report of conditions in the Northwest. It is dated at Spokane, Wash., July 17, 1923, and is designated as "Crop Report No. 9." The sheet probably was issued by State authorities:

#### YAKIMA DISTRICT

YAKIMA PROPER: There has been a heavy rainfall in this district, amounting to nearly two inches or one-fourth of the annual rainfall. Growing conditions have been excellent and worms have had no opportunity to do as much damage as usual. By heavy spraying and careful attention of the growers the crop is, at this time, cleaner than it has been for several years. Early peaches, such as Alexanders and Dewey Clings, are being harvested in the lower valley and as far north as Donald district. Several mixed cars containing plums and early apples have been shipped the past week. Pears are growing very rapidly. Some growers in the Donald district are talking of picking as early as the 23rd of this month. In this district, there are some frost-marked and frost-ringed pears. Pears are easily a week or ten days earlier throughout the whole district than in any previous season. Canneries have made no price, although rumors are afloat all the way from \$28.00 to \$35.00, but no sales have been reported. The crop will be fully up to earlier expectations for varieties of fruit.

GRANDVIEW: Crops look fine, both apples and pears having made a larger growth than usual for the season, probably because of the cool weather which prevailed most of the time to about July 4th. Since that time it has been warmer, - about normal summer weather. Had a very heavy rain July 6th, falling steadily for twenty-four hours, thoroughly soaking the ground. Growers continue frequent and thorough spraying, and there is no worm injury of any amount up to the present. Now that thinning is over, many growers report better yield than formerly thought. Undoubtedly will run 1,200 cars or better of apples. Bartlett pears look fine. Last year they were very rough, but this season are smooth and will make good shipping quality. For the first time, thinning of Bartletts is fairly general, which will make a better average size than formerly. As the impression prevails that canneries will not offer satisfactory prices, packing of Bartletts for eastern shipment is generally talked. Up to the present, no offers for cannery pears have been made here, as far as we can learn.

#### MEDFORD DISTRICT

Weather continues warm and fruit is growing rapidly. Some growers now thinning Bartlett pears and nearly all of the apple thinning is completed. Irrigation under way and all fruit being carefully watched for worms and blight. From present indications the crop of both apples and pears will be the cleanest and best in size and quality ever shipped from the district.

#### BOISE DISTRICT

It is contended that the frequent rains and cool weather during June have been responsible for an increase in crop estimates, and most authorities state that the shipments of peaches, apples and prunes will exceed the shipments of any previous year. At present growers are expecting

(Continued over)



CROP CONDITIONS IN THE NORTHWEST (Continued).

the largest crop of Italian prunes ever marketed in Idaho. Estimates range from 2,200 to 2,500 cars. Apple growers report that blight damage was over-estimated and that in most sections it simply saved them considerable thinning expense. The Federal Bureau estimates 5,800 cars of apples for Idaho, and 300 cars of peaches from southern Idaho.

EASTERN OREGON

FREEWATER: Conditions here are ideal. Of various estimates of prune tonnage the average seems to be 1,100 cars in this district. Some houses estimate as high as 1,500 cars and all are busy on box-making. Apple prospects also are good, with 1,000 cars in sight. Fruit is cleaner than usual so far and should make good sizes. The weather is extremely hot and sultry, but so much rain may delay prune-picking until August 15th to 20th.

WENATCHEE DISTRICT

The weather has been very hot the past few days, following a period of cool and rainy weather. Fruit is growing rapidly, already of sufficient size to be packed, and indications are that we will have very fine sizes. Worms practically non-existent and everything progressing satisfactorily. Cherries are finished with the possible exception of a car or so. Apricots now moving; being bought by cash operators at \$80.00 per ton bulk or \$1.15 to \$1.25 per crate packed. Canneries offering \$35.00 to \$37.50 for Bartletts, with very few growers taking the offers. There is at least a month of growing weather yet.

4c. F.P.I.-8.

A new supply of F.P.I.-8 is being mailed to each office. All old copies of this number should be destroyed.

This announcement should be used freely in connection with correspondence regarding the Inspection Service. It may be inserted as an extra with all letters sent out regarding inspection matters during the next two weeks. If you need additional copies write or wire this office.

5c. PEACH INSPECTIONS AT TIMBERVILLE, VA.

Mr. Parsons, of the Richmond office, reports that he will inspect and issue cooperative certificates on a number of cars of peaches to be shipped by J. L. Branch from Timberville, Va. (Timberville is in the Shenandoah Valley, just north of Harrisonburg.) This work will begin about August 1. All cars inspected will be marked in the usual way. Mr. Branch will likely ship most of these cars to New York City.

6c. MISSOURI AND KANSAS POTATO INSPECTIONS NOT COOPERATIVE.

The potato inspection work being conducted by Mr. Miller in the Orrick section of Missouri and by Mr. Hoover in the Kaw Valley of Kansas is straight Federal inspection work, not cooperative State and Federal.

F. G. ROBB,

Specialist in Inspection.



OFFICE NOTES:

The past week has been home-coming week in Washington. Mr. Samson returned from the West and Mr. Robb from Maine on Friday. Mr. Stillwell also got back that day from his recent visit to market and field stations. On Monday, Mr. Sherman returned from his month's trip to the middle and far West, and Mr. Bier was back at his desk after having started the peach-inspection work in North Carolina.

Mr. Sherman renewed arrangements for shipping-point inspection work in a number of western States, particularly Colorado, Nebraska, Utah, Washington, Oregon and California, as mentioned on page 3 of this week's "B.A.E. News." A unique arrangement for local inspectors in Utah is described on page 2 of this week's "Federal and State Marketing Activities."

Mr. Samson accompanied Mr. Sherman on part of his trip, conferring with growers, shippers, and State authorities in the Pacific Northwest regarding the work of his project, Marketing Fruits and Vegetables. Arrangements also were made whereby R. R. Pailthorp (now a member of Mr. Samson's field staff) will conduct an investigation of the extent and causes of rejections of shipments, especially apples, from the Northwest. Mr. Pailthorp's headquarters will remain in our Spokane office until he has completed this study, after which he will come in to Washington.

As a result of the conference in which Mr. Robb participated at Caribou, Maine, last week, it is expected that many thousands of cars of potatoes will be shipping-point inspected in that State the coming season. Probably 20 local inspectors will be employed in this work, under the supervision of a Federal inspector.

Mr. Bier spent Monday and Tuesday in Washington, and left on Tuesday evening for Williamson, New York, where he will cooperate with Mr. Underwood, of the Extension Service of Cornell University, in demonstrating the Federal grades for lettuce to the growers and shippers in that territory. It will be remembered that Mr. Hauck carried on a similar campaign last summer. The present work is a continuation of the effort to secure a practical application of the grades in this important shipping-center for lettuce.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., expects to complete the inspection work on peaches in Georgia by the end of this week. He will then return to the Washington office. If conditions prove favorable for similar inspection service at peach-shipping stations in eastern Maryland, Mr. Conklin will supervise activities in that section, in conjunction with Maryland State authorities.

C. W. Hauck left for Boston last night. He is investigating the acceptability of Maine potatoes as collateral on possible loans to growers by the Federal Farm Loan Board. While in Boston, Mr. Hauck also will confer with dealers regarding the proposed Federal grades for peppers. He probably will be absent about a week.



OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Announcement has been received of the marriage of O. D. Miller, in charge of the New York market news office, to Miss Frankie Helen MacDonald, of Lansing, Mich. The wedding took place at Lansing on July 25, and Mr. and Mrs. Miller will be at home in Maplewood, N.J., after August 10. Congratulations and best wishes are extended.

After conferring in Washington with Mr. Samson and Mr. Yohe on the warehousing of peanuts, Paul M. Williams left last Friday for Norfolk, Suffolk, and Petersburg, Va., where he will complete his present investigations concerning this product. He may also visit points in North Carolina on this trip.

Additional changes have taken place in the staff of cooperative inspectors in Colorado. E. J. Powell, who was supervising inspector at Glenwood Springs the past season, has joined the California forces under W. F. Allewelt, and it is understood will handle shipping-point work in the Fresno district. F. A. Powell has been given a cooperative appointment, with headquarters at Eagle, Colo., and L. C. Archer now holds a similar appointment at Delta. Two members of last season's Colorado staff still hold their positions as supervising inspectors, namely: G. W. Dyer, at Delta, and W. E. Hawkins, at Monte Vista. All of these men, in addition to the numerous local inspectors, work under the general direction of E. F. McKune, of the State Division of Markets.

The official title of R. C. Butner, of Chicago, has been changed from Supervising Inspector to Regional Supervisor. Mr. Butner was recently called to his former home at Lexington, Ky., on account of a death in the family. He will be back at his desk by Monday.

About August 3, M. A. Russell, Inspector at Minneapolis, will be transferred to Chicago, where he will be assistant to Mr. Butner, with the title of Associate Regional Supervisor. F. J. Baehler will devote practically all of his time to shipping-point inspection work; he is now organizing this cooperative service in Illinois.

Additional Inspectors at present on leave are: T. L. Kelly, of Philadelphia, July 23 to 26 and W. C. Hangstafer, of Philadelphia, July 16 to August 2. Inspectors R. A. Smith, of Memphis, and J. B. Wright, of San Pedro, will take their leave a day or two at a time, as their work permits.

The Philadelphia office has received a request from the American Fruit Growers to inspect a lot of apples at Wyoming, Delaware. This job may require three or four days' time, and arrangements have been made to send S. F. Shreve from Baltimore to handle these inspections, because of the shortage of help in Philadelphia.

H. T. Longino, of the New York staff, went to Boston last week to assist with the rush of inspection work. He will remain in Boston until the inspections become lighter.



OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Raymond M. Upton, of Massachusetts, has been appointed as an Assistant Marketing Specialist, effective August 1. He will report for duty in Washington, and will be employed temporarily in Mr. Samson's project. Mr. Upton received his B.S. degree from the Massachusetts Agricultural College at Amherst in 1915. He attended evening high schools in that State during the winters of 1915-16 and 1919-20, taking courses in bookkeeping, typewriting and Spanish. In the spring of 1917, Mr. Upton made a study of various agricultural schools and high-school departments of agriculture under the supervision of the University Extension, State Board of Education, Massachusetts. Later, he took a course in education and high-school administration at Brown University, and during 1920-21 attended Johns Hopkins University. He received his M.S. degree from the University of Delaware in 1922. Mr. Upton has had extensive experience in practical gardening for the Boston Gardening Co., and was an organizer of war-garden activities in Middlesex County. For about two years he served as Agricultural Director for the Schools and general public of North Attleboro, Mass. He has been Agricultural Training Officer for the Veterans' Bureau in the States of Pennsylvania and Delaware, and in 1920 accepted a position with the University of Delaware as Director of Rehabilitation. He held that position at the time of his appointment to this Bureau.

Nathaniel Farnworth, of Colorado, also has received appointment as an Assistant Marketing Specialist. He will not report in Chicago for training in inspection work until about August 28. Mr. Farnworth attended the preparatory school of the Colorado Agricultural College, 1903-05. He then entered the University of Colorado and was graduated from the Law School in 1908 with the degree of L.L.B. From 1908 until 1915, he practiced law at Fort Collins, and since that time has been engaged in farming in Weld County, Colorado, growing potatoes as a major crop, together with numerous other products. He therefore has had experience in the harvesting, handling, storing, grading and shipping of farm products in carlot quantities.

Wilbur L. Close, of the State of Washington, is the third to be given an appointment as Assistant Marketing Specialist. Since 1918, he has been on the State staff as an inspector, two years of this period serving as Deputy at Grandview. For the past two years, Mr. Close has been directing inspection work in Washington. He will remain in the Northwest and continue to supervise inspections at Washington shipping points under the cooperative agreement with that State. Mr. Close received his high school training at Lawrenceville, Pa.; completed preparatory school work in 1912, and entered Pennsylvania State College. For  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years he specialized in horticultural and pomological studies. He then attended Oregon Agricultural College for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  years, and received the B.S. degree in 1917. He has had practical experience in farming and orchard and vineyard work in Pennsylvania, New York, California, Idaho and Washington. In 1918, Mr. Close was employed by the Yakima Traffic and Credit Association as Fruit Messenger, and part of 1918 and 1919 was spent in military service.

H. A. Arenz, Inspector at Milwaukee, will be on leave beginning July 30. C. H. Behnke, who has completed the training course in inspection work at Chicago, will substitute for Mr. Arenz during his absence.



OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

As will be observed on the list of field stations of the Market News Service, R. H. Lamb, of the Cincinnati office, leaves at once for Caldwell, Idaho, where he will inaugurate market reports on potatoes. Louis H. Wulfekuhl, his assistant in Cincinnati, will have charge of the reporting work in that city during Mr. Lamb's absence. Paul Yax will go from Buffalo to help Mr. Wulfekuhl during the next month or two.

A. E. Prugh will close the Fort Valley field station this Saturday and start issuing reports on peaches in the Cornelia section of Georgia. After a short period of leave, he will then go to Caldwell, Idaho, and take over the work at that office, thus permitting Mr. Lamb to proceed to Rocky Ford to handle the reports on cantaloupes.

W. J. Bertush leaves Chicago next Sunday or Monday for Colorado. He will be in charge of the field station at Grand Junction until winter. On his way West, Mr. Bertush will stop at Denver to confer with Mr. Snow, in charge of the Denver Market News office, and with Mr. McCann, Director of the State Extension Service. H. S. Stiles, also of the Chicago staff, will leave on Sunday for Kennett, Mo., where he will issue reports on watermelons. This makes Geo. A. DeHaven the sole technical assistant to Mr. Hall in Chicago during August.

Miss Barbara A. Strang, of Mr. Patton's section in Washington, was married last Saturday morning to Mr. Wm. G. French. She expects to return to duty next week, following the wedding trip.

Miss Isabel E. Myrth has been given a temporary clerical appointment to assist with the work in the Domestic Wool Section.

Mr. Patton, accompanied by Mr. Sherman, attended a meeting of railroad officials at Richmond, Va., on Wednesday, where methods of preventing freight losses were discussed. Mr. Patton continued his trip to Roanoke and Norfolk, to confer with railroad officials rendering shipment reports.

Word from J. D. Snow indicates that regular mimeographed market reports were started in Denver last Monday.

Porter A. Taylor, Acting Director of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Markets, and W. C. Lynn, of the Harrisburg office, were visitors to the Washington office on Tuesday and Wednesday, as was F. Earl Parsons, of the State office at Richmond, Va. These men were among the marketing officials of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia who met in conference at the City Club yesterday, to discuss the season's fruit prospects in their respective producing districts. Mr. Stillwell attended this meeting and assured the representatives of the issuance of apple market reports at Martinsburg, W. Va., or some other suitable point in the Potomac Valley.

It is expected that mimeographed market reports will be resumed at the Baltimore office in the near future. This mailing list has been served from Washington for the past few years.

Mrs. Wilma C. Rice, formerly of the Bureau time office, has been reinstated temporarily and, beginning next week, will assist with the work in Mr. Fiske's section. Some members of that section will be on leave during August.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 31

August 2, 1923

(Contents Confidential)

1a. COOPERATION WITH AREA COORDINATOR ENJOINED.

At the direction of the Office of the Secretary, copies of a letter dated July 12, 1923, and addressed to the Secretary by the Chief Coordinator with reference to the matter of cooperation on the part of field representatives with the Area Coordinators in connection with information which they may seek along the line of their official duties, are being forwarded to our branch offices and traveling field men.

The Chief Coordinator is subordinate only to the Director of the Budget, who is responsible directly to the President. The purpose of this establishment is to coordinate the activities of the different Departments to insure the most economical and efficient expenditure of monies appropriated by Congress. The duties of the Chief Coordinator are to exercise general supervision over the coordination of the routine business activities of the governmental organizations, with particular attention to methods of purchasing, liquidation of supplies, specification of materials, advertising, warehousing, employment, manufacturing, disbursing and other ordinary business activities of the Government. The work of the Chief Coordinator is handled through Area Coordinators whose names and locations are furnished in the letter of July 12, which is being distributed.

Each of our representatives outside of Washington should read the Chief Coordinator's letter carefully, and is authorized and requested to render such assistance and cooperation as may be possible, when requested by the Area Coordinator.

2a. WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR JULY 28:

In the July 28 issue of Weather, Crops and Markets, the following material was published concerning fruits and vegetables:

Page 89 - Review of markets for week ending July 21.

- Brief statement on honey production.

90 - The Agricultural Outlook.

91 - Certain Truck Crops in New York, including cabbage, onions, lettuce, and celery.

- New York Lettuce.

- Condition and production of pecans, with number of bearing trees.

92 - Honey Production to July 1 Lowest since 1917.

- Condition of Bees and Honey Plants and Yield of Honey, July 1.

- Wabasha County, Minn., Cuts Cabbage Acreage.

93 - List of new publications issued.

100 - Weekly review, with special paragraph on potatoes; shipments, and f.o.b. prices.

101 - Arrivals and prices in leading markets.

- Strawberry Grades Bring Results.

- Shipping Season for Western New York Peaches, (abstract from summary by C. L. Brown).

- Use of Overripe Strawberries in Louisiana.

- Shipping-Point Inspection of Peaches and Potatoes.

102 - Inspection Service Extended During Past Year, with tables and chart.

OFFICE NOTES: (Cont'd)

M. A. Russell has left Minneapolis, and now is stationed in Chicago, as Mr. Butner's assistant. C. H. Johnson has been sent from Omaha to Minneapolis to fill the vacancy in that city, and R. N. Balster will go from Philadelphia to have temporary charge of the inspection work in Omaha. All these changes should be noted on the list of Inspectors.

Rogers Koops, a member of the recent training class in Chicago, has returned to the New York office and will assist with inspections in that city. He was off duty from July 17 to 25, on account of illness and an operation.

While G. C. Bayley is on annual leave, W. H. Steinbauer, of the Chicago staff, is taking care of inspections in Detroit. Mr. Bayley will return about the middle of the month.

The International Apple Shippers annual convention will be held in Detroit during the period, August 7 - 10. This Division will be represented by Mr. Sampson, of the Washington office, and Mr. Butner, of Chicago.

H. A. Spilman has gone on a short trip to Salisbury, Md., and other points in that State and Delaware, to investigate cantaloupe crates and other packages in general use. He will also visit package factories.

C. T. Hauck probably will be back at his desk this Friday, following his recent trip to Boston. He stopped off at New York on the return journey.

News from F. S. Kinsey indicates that he has been at Medford, Oregon, supervising the inspections of pears, but he will return to Wenatchee, Wash., by the end of this week.

Paul M. Williams is again in the Washington office. He returned yesterday from his trip to the Norfolk section of Virginia.

On Thursday, August 9, Mr. Sherman is scheduled to deliver an address at the Farmers' Institute, in session at Blacksburg, Va. He will discuss the advantages of market reports and shipping-point inspection.

R. L. Ringer recently attended a meeting of the Oregon State Horticultural Board, at which grading rules were adopted for apples, apricots, pears, and prunes. These rules will be effective August 25. He also states in his letter: "The Board is preparing to make an active fight on the alfalfa weevil, which is really a serious menace to the Northwest where alfalfa is one of the most valuable crops. We can't all have orchards but everybody can and does have an alfalfa field, and they pasture and feed everything on it from chickens up. The Board is asking for \$10,000 to start the fight, but takes the stand to spend nothing except in areas where the farmers will bind themselves to clean up the harboring places in hedge and fence rows and along old ditch banks."

Richmond, Va., New York City, and Albany, N. Y., are points being visited by F. M. Patton on this week's tour in the interest of telegraphic reports of shipments. He is expected to return by Saturday.



TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTSMarket News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will close
MACON, GA.* Hotel Macon	875	F. H. Scruggs	W-Melons	July 11	Aug. 16
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.* Room 27, Mull Bldg.	918	C. E. Schultz	Pears Peaches Pl. & Pr. Grapes	July 17 July 17 July 17 Aug. 6	Oct. 1 Oct. 1 Sept. 15 Nov. 1
KEARNEY, NEBR. Federal Bldg.	930	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	July 23	Aug. 16
CORNELIA, GA.* Cornelia Bank Bldg.	934	A. E. Prugh	Peaches	July 30	Aug. 10
KENNETT, MO.	819	H. S. Stiles	W-Melons	Aug. 6	Aug. 25
CALDWELL, IDA.	928	R. H. Lamb	Potatoes	Aug. 4	Sept. 15

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.*	846	W. J. Bertush	Peaches Potatoes Apples	Aug. 6 Aug. 6 Sept. 1	Sept. 15 Nov. 1 Nov. 1
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.*	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Peaches Grapes Apples Potatoes	Aug. 15 Aug. 15 Aug. 15 Sept. 15	Sept. 15 Oct. 15 Oct. 15 Oct. 15
ROCKY FORD, COLO.	821	R. H. Lamb	Cants.	Aug. 29	Sept. 29

\* State Department cooperating.

R. H. Shoemaker in Chicago office.

V. D. Callanan in San Francisco office.

G. E. Prince in New York office.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. HONEY REPORT FOR AUGUST 15 TO BE ISSUED AT MADISON, WISCONSIN.

From August 13 to 18 there will be held at Madison, Wisconsin, what is announced as the biggest gathering of beekeepers ever held in the United States. The chief attraction of this Fifth Annual Beekeepers Conference is the dedication of the Memorial Library in honor of Dr. C. C. Miller, who for over 50 years was one of the most widely known authorities on matters relating to bees.

It happens that August 15 is announced on the program as the day for marketing problems. At the request of Dr. Phillips, Apiculturist of the Department, the next honey report will be issued that day at Madison. Mr. Clay will go from Washington to edit the report and B. B. Jones, at Madison, will arrange for the stenciling and mimeographing of the bulletin.

A rather spectacular stunt is being planned in this connection. Mr. Clay is on the August 15 program for a paper on the Government honey market news service. At the conclusion, the market reports will be brought in, fresh from the mimeograph, and be distributed to the audience. It is essential, therefore, that all information reach Madison by August 14. Stations securing honey and beeswax reports are requested to secure and file the information on Monday, the 13th, so that Chicago can relay the reports early Tuesday.

2b. WATCH CAREFULLY PRODUCTION FIGURES.

Many field men use production data in their summaries of field deals. It is necessary to check such tables in Washington before stencils for the summaries are cut. Sometimes the Washington office is obliged to rewrite the entire table because the field man has used the wrong production data. Much time and trouble would be saved, if all field employees would be careful to use only the latest revised figures.

This is the rule which should be followed: If you desire the final revised 1921 production figures on apples, peaches or pears, for example, look in Weather, Crops and Markets issued in the latter part of December, 1922. The paper for December, 1921, gives final figures for that year, but they always are subject to revision the following December. Please bear that point in mind. The latest figures are not published until a whole year after the year to which they pertain. Not even the Yearbook contains the final revision; that is, the 1921 Yearbook does not contain the most correct figures for 1921, because it was issued about the middle of 1922 and the final revised estimates were not published until December, 1922. The 1921 Yearbook gives the 1921 production of pears as 10,705,000 bushels, but Weather, Crops and Markets for December 23, 1922, gives the final figures for 1921 as 11,297,000 bushels, an increase of more than half a million bushels. Summaries of field deals must always contain the latest data available. Final figures for 1920 will be found in The Monthly Crop Reporter for December, 1921; and for previous seasons the Crop Reporters for previous Decembers should be used. Or the Yearbook can be used for figures of two years before but not for the latest season. For production data of the current year use the latest available figures.



3b. CHANGES ON "F" (SHIPMENTS AND RECEIPTS) AND "NI" (PEACHES) PAGES OF CODE.

We are now securing each morning from Potomac Yards a record of the number of cars held for reconsignment at 8 o'clock. These have been added to the wire covering Potomac Yard Passings and sent over the Eastern Circuit and to eastern field stations.

On the "F" page of the code,

change FAM - Atlanta to read:

FAM - Cars held for reconsignment at Potomac Yards at  
8 A. M. today.

ON "NI" (Peaches) page of the code,

change UW - Choice to read:

UW - Ring-packed

This term means that the entire basket of peaches is ring-packed; while "ring tail pack," expressed by "UM," indicates that only the top layer or two are so packed.

4b. INTERESTING ITEMS FROM SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS.

PHILADELPHIA: The special daily report prepared by the Philadelphia office primarily for newspapers now includes auction prices on citrus fruits. This report, which covers all fruits and vegetables on the local market, is now printed in full by all the morning newspapers in Philadelphia and is used by papers in New Jersey and near-by points in Pennsylvania. The present radio program includes a 9:15 report relating especially to New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware products, and a 12:15 report of carlot shipments and a review of the principal markets. Both these reports are broadcast by WFI station (Strawbridge & Clothier). A stenographer in the Dover office of the Delaware Bureau of Markets takes down almost the complete fruit and vegetable reports received by radio phone, and this information is distributed from Dover. The Philadelphia office issued a recapitulation of unloads for the past four years; which was favorably received. During the New Jersey asparagus season, market reports were obtained from New York, Boston and Pittsburgh and furnished the County Agent of Gloucester County. Special copies of these reports also were mailed to interested growers. For some months, Philadelphia has been securing post-card reports of various fruits and vegetables arriving in the city by wagon and truck. Although this work has met with only partial success, Mr. Biddle feels that the reports received will enable him to make a fairly accurate estimate of total receipts for the season.

KANSAS CITY: Beginning with July, the Kansas City office has been issuing a weekly summary of carlot arrivals, unloads and diversions on that market. This report also includes a summary of the carlot shipments of various products throughout the United States.

CINCINNATI: Indications are that the new Fruit Exchange Building in Cincinnati will be completed very shortly, and after September 1 our offices may be moved to that building. The Crosley Mfg. Co. is the only one now broadcasting market information, other stations having been absorbed or discontinued. Arrangements are pending with the Louisville "Courier-Journal" to inaugurate a broadcasting program, using in part the reports furnished by our Cincinnati office. Mr. Lamb suggests that "advertising the activities of the Bureau through County Agents would greatly increase the popularity of Government reports with farmers, growers and dealers."



5b. THE USE OF FREIGHT RATES IN SUMMARIES.

Recently instructions were issued to discontinue the use of freight rates in all field station summaries. This was done because of certain inaccuracies in material published in previous summaries which resulted in the receipt of some rather sharp criticisms.

A number of the men have pointed out, however, that in many cases accurate freight rates can be determined from large shippers or from local agents in each of the districts and that the inclusion of freight rates to important points gives the grower valuable information, if he cares to make a comparison of terminal market prices and f.o.b. prices. Previous instructions accordingly are modified and tabulations of freight rates may be shown in a summary if carefully checked.

Please advise in every case, where freight rates are used, the source of the information so that we may determine whether it will be necessary for us to check the data by referring to the tariffs on file in the Interstate Commerce Commission. Also state the particular interest which prompts their publication. Do not attempt to include any information covering freight rates from competing sections.

6b. WATERMELONS IN NORTH TEXAS.

R. H. Shoemaker gave the following information in a letter of July 25, from Fort Worth:-

"The watermelon crop in Northeast and North Texas will probably run around 600 cars each in the Weatherford and Omaha sections. They have not had the usual amount of rain. As a result of the light shipments, not only from North Texas but from the eastern producing States, it now looks as if nothing can stop this (Texas) market from remaining at a high level. Detroit and Chicago buyers are present in the producing sections; which indicates what those markets think of the deal this season. Usually, few Texas watermelons are shipped to Chicago, while Detroit shipments were almost unheard of in previous seasons. This week will see the heaviest movement from this State. Although the season will last through next week, I do not look for many shipments after that time."

7b. HONEY BALL MELONS IN TEXAS.

In some advertising matter which the Adkins Brokerage Company (Fort Worth) put out concerning the new "Honey Ball Cantaloupes," the following statements appear:

"This cantaloupe is a perfect cross between the California Honey Dew and the Texas Cannon Ball cantaloupe, the grower having spent six years perfecting the cross. \*\*\* The Honey Ball has a very thick meat wall and a very small seed cavity. The writer weighs 204 pounds and has repeatedly stood on two of these Honey Balls without crushing them.\*\*\* We have been unable to supply the demand at \$1.25 per flat crate. We expect to plant around 2,000 acres next season."

E. W. STILLWELL,

Specialist in Market News.



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK JULY 23-28, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Philadelphia-Misc. R	2:07	2:30	23	20	16,935	400
New York- Misc.GNR	1:19	1:46	27	30	6,322	351
Atlanta - Misc.	11:44	12:18	34	10	1,490	--
Washington- Misc.	1:08	2:10	62	10	2,250	--
Boston - Misc.	12:14	2:17	123	10	3,301	200
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
St. Louis - Misc.	12:19	12:36	17	10	3,950	225
Chicago - Misc.	11:55	12:13	18	13	6,000	750
Minneapolis- Misc. R	11:59	12:21	22	17	3,445	110
Cincinnati- Misc.	1:43	2:09	26	10	4,510	650
Pittsburgh - Misc.	11:18	11:48	30	10	2,079	49
Kansas City- Misc. R	11:41	12:34	53	10	6,525	1,420
Denver - Misc.	1:09	2:52	103	9	5,668	--
Washington (Nat'l)GNPRV #5 P'nuts, Ship. Infm.				63	29,611	1,038
TOTAL	12:33#	1:18#	45#	222	92,086	5,193
" previous week	12:43#	1:24#	41#	213	84,964	7,791
<u>WESTERN OFFICES (JULY 16-21)</u>						
Los Angeles-Misc.GR. ship.	5:08	6:08	60	33	16,185	--
Portland-Mis. IM	5:45	6:45	60	12	940	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				6,433	2,899,386	149,257

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK JULY 23-28, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Fort Valley - N		1:07	2:42	3,900	650	--	--
Fort Worth - V		12:30	1:11	2,503	417	--	31
Kearney - R		1:11	1:53	1,497	249	--	--
Macon - V		2:53	4:54	6,576	1,070	--	--
*Sacramento NP#5		3:08	4:08	905	146	--	--
TOTAL		1:46#	2:58#	15,381			
" previous week		1:11#	2:46#	12,957			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				954,730			

# Average time. \* Reports for July 17-21.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 4,003,373.

## INSPECTION SERVICE.

1c. ANNUAL REVIEW OF INSPECTION WORK.

On page 102 of Weather, Crops and Markets for July 28 is printed a review of the inspection work accomplished during the fiscal year 1923. It is illustrated with a chart, showing the monthly inspections in 32 terminal markets. One of the statistical tables shows annual inspections in each city during the past five fiscal years, and another table presents the work done for the Navy and Marine Corps. Every Inspector should read this review, and is welcome to disseminate the information contained therein.

It is regretted that a few typographical errors appear in the review. These were marked for correction when the galley-proof was read, but somehow were not corrected in the final proof. The word "minths" in the 13th line of the article should be "months." The phrase "or the Veterans' Bureau" in the 5th line below the chart should read: "for the Veterans' Bureau."

The sub-head, "Shipping-Point Inspections," should not appear just below the chart, but above the next paragraph which refers to the enlargement of the inspection law. Many readers probably will think that it is designation for the chart, but it has no relation thereto. In order to crowd the material on one page, it was necessary to omit the type heading for the chart; this heading was intended to read: "Fruit and Vegetable Inspections in 32 Markets."

2c. POTATO SITUATION AT KEARNEY, NEBR.

In a letter of July 23, W. H. Mosier wrote as follows concerning the potato situation in the Kearney district of Nebraska:

"The best informed persons in the locality place the acreage around 4,000 for the district, which is some reduction from last season. As there has been practically no digging to date, an estimate of the yield would be pretty hard to make although from all appearances it will be at least as heavy as last year, with the quality far superior to that of last season. The growers are ready to dig, but the recent slump in the market has caused them to hold off in the hope of a price advance. In all probability, there will not be much of a movement before the first of August."

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

An extra copy of the next page (335) is enclosed for each Inspector. This should be bound with the Peanut section of the Handbook.



3c. VALUE OF PEANUT CERTIFICATES TO THE TRADE.

All Inspectors will be interested to know just how valuable the inspection certificates on peanuts are to the members of the peanut trade: About two years ago the Bureau promulgated tentative grades on No. 1 and No. 2 shelled Spanish peanuts. At that time a few of our offices were equipped with screens for the purpose of inspecting Spanish peanuts.

These grades were adopted by the Southeastern Peanut Shellers Association and are the basis on which they have built their trading rules, governing all transactions in shelled peanuts. Furthermore, the trading rules on which all sales of Spanish peanuts in the South are now made specify exactly how settlement shall be effected for such cars as are found to be out of grade. In event of the rejection of a car of peanuts, the rules provide that, where a Federal Food Products Inspector is available, he shall be considered a representative of both buyer and seller and his sampling and grading shall be binding on both parties to the transaction.

In Rule III, section 5, of the Official Rules of the Southeastern Peanut Association, the following provision is made: "Shelled Spanish peanuts not coming up to contract quality shall be of good delivery, if within the following limitations -(the next sentences indicate double the tolerances allowed in the Government grades) \*\*\* but the contract price shall be reduced for each one per cent and proportionately for a fraction of one per cent in excess of the grades stipulated in Rule 3, sections 1 to 3, both inclusive, as follows: No. 1 shelled Spanish peanuts, one-half of one per cent for each excess one per cent in splits; 14% for each excess one per cent in foreign material; 7% for each excess one per cent in damaged, mouldy or unshelled peanuts; one-half of one per cent for each excess one per cent of other varieties; three-quarters of one per cent for each excess one per cent of shrivels."

It is not binding on the buyer to accept a car of peanuts which is rejected, where the Government Inspector finds that the car contains more than double the amount of tolerances allowed in the Government grades. The importance of the inspection certificate, therefore, will readily be seen.

Inspectors at various times have raised the question as to the advisability of making such close determinations as specified in the Handbook on Shelled Spanish Peanuts. Some have felt that it is unreasonable to draw such a fine line of demarcation in the tolerances. To explain in a concrete manner just how important it is that Inspectors use every care to make close determinations, let us assume that a car contains one per cent too much foreign material. Under the terms of sale at today's price of shelled Spanish peanuts, around \$4,200 per car, - the buyer of this car will be entitled to receive a remittance of 14%, or \$588, from the shipper, provided the Government inspection certificate shows the presence of one per cent excess foreign material. If the excess was only one-tenth of one per cent, the shipper would refund the buyer, or reduce the draft against the car, in the amount of \$58.80. This explanation is made in order that Inspectors may fully realize how important it is that their determinations be made very exactly and that every care be exercised in handling and scoring up the car.

It is planned to equip a number of additional offices with peanut screens, and new instructions covering both Spanish and runner grade peanuts will soon be issued for the guidance of Inspectors. Offices also will be supplied with samples of each grade of Spanish and runner peanuts, together with photographs of the different varieties of peanuts now finding their way to market.

F. G. ROBB, Specialist in Inspection.



"THE PRESIDENT IS DEAD."

Just as this paper was going to press, the shocking news was received of President Harding's sudden death at San Francisco. All Washington mourns.

OFFICE NOTES:

A. E. Mercker was called to Washington for directions concerning the cooperative shipping-point inspection work which he will supervise in Utah. He arrived this morning, and left at noon for New York. By the end of this week, he will start for Salt Lake City, which will be his headquarters for about three months. He can be addressed there in care of the State Dept. of Agriculture. Mrs. Mercker will accompany him to the West.

Shipping-point inspection of peaches in South Georgia was completed last Saturday, with a total of 330 cars inspected. E. E. Conklin, Jr., who supervised this work, spent Monday and Tuesday in Atlanta, and reached Aberdeen, N. C., yesterday. He relieved Mr. Mercker, so that the latter could come to Washington, and will close up the North Carolina peach work by the end of this week. To Tuesday, about 140 cars of peaches had been inspected in the Sandhill section, 72 of these being handled last week, and 25 on Monday,

During the period that Robert Bier is working in New York State, he should be addressed in care of the New York Dept. of Farms and Markets, 505 Duffy-Powers Bldg., Rochester, N. Y. He is working temporarily in the Williamson section, but will travel to other parts of the State.

Within a day or two, F. E. Bailey, who has been on the New York inspection staff for a few months, will return to the State of Washington and assist in supervising the cooperative inspection work. His headquarters will be in Spokane, and he expects to take a week's leave after reaching that city.

Neal D. Sanborn, who has been taking the Inspector's training in Chicago, will return to Colorado about August 13, where he will work as a cooperative supervising inspector, with headquarters at Greeley, Colo. His address will be 214 Post Office Bldg.

The address of Wilbur L. Close, whose cooperative appointment was mentioned in last week's Division Letter, is County Court House, Yakima, Wash.

J. W. Park visited the Washington office on July 23, en route to Grand Forks, N. Dak., where he has resumed his duties with the Federal Seed Grain Loan Office in that territory.

After three years' service, first in the market news section and later in the administrative offices of the Division, Miss Helen Mann transferred to the Department Office of Exhibits on Wednesday. Miss Lottie Sommers, formerly with Mr. Clay's section, is now in Miss Mann's place, handling requisitions and miscellaneous orders for the Division.



OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

The work in the San Francisco office of the Market News Service is progressing nicely. Latest advice indicates that the mailing list is about 750. Mr. Callanan will remain there for a while longer, assisting C. J. Hansen in this new work. The office address is 65 Appraiser's Bldg., and the phone is Sutter 1527.

Watermelon market reports will be discontinued at Fort Worth about August 10, after which the loop of the leased wire will be changed from our office to the office of the Live Stock, Meats and Wool Division. Fruit and vegetable information will be transmitted by telephone between these offices.

R. H. Shoemaker, who has been assisting in Fort Worth, is now in Chicago, completing some of his reports of field deals, before proceeding to Benton Harbor, Mich., to issue market reports on peaches, grapes, apples and potatoes.

Information from H. S. Stiles indicates that the watermelon movement from the Kennett section of Missouri will not be active until August 10. Meanwhile, he is making trips into nearby territory to acquaint himself with local conditions.

Dr. Dean H. Rose, B.P.I. Pathologist formerly connected with the Chicago office, is now located permanently in Washington. He was a visitor to the Inspection headquarters this morning. He plans to return to Chicago about August 15 to give further lectures to the inspectors' training class, and will also assist in the training of the new class to be formed about the 27th inst.

C. L. Brown, who has been in charge of the market reporting work in Boston during the past few months, was called to Rochester on account of the illness of his wife. He will take his annual leave in that city, and remain there until the reopening of the Rochester office, which he will again operate this fall and winter.

J. D. Evers passed through Washington last Monday en route from Macon, Ga., to Boston, and has now succeeded Mr. Brown in that office. This change should be noted on the Market Station Address List. Mr. Evers spent part of a day in Philadelphia on his way to Boston, conferring with Mr. Biddle.

O. D. Miller and his bride were visitors to the Washington office on Tuesday. After stopping at Philadelphia today, they will proceed to New York, where Mr. Miller will resume charge of the Market News office. George E. Prince who has been substituting in New York, will return to Washington early next week, and later probably will be placed in charge of the Spokane office for the winter.

Having reported for duty yesterday, R. M. Upton, whose appointment was mentioned in last week's Division Letter, was sent to Philadelphia, where he will make a thorough study of the retail distribution of fruits and vegetables. He will investigate particularly the operation of a chain of stores handling fruits and vegetables exclusively. This work may require a month's time.

## Pages 328&amp;338-interchanged

3a. CHECK UP PERIODICALS YOUR OFFICE IS RECEIVING.

There are certain periodical publications of the Bureau which every office should receive, and additional ones which may be desired by some offices. Be sure that your office is getting the following papers:

DIVISION LETTER of the F. & V. Division.

THE B.A.E. NEWS, the weekly news sheet of the Bureau.

WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS, the printed weekly paper containing crop and market information of importance.

THE OFFICIAL RECORD, - the weekly paper of the Department.

These additional periodicals, all of them issued in mimeographed form, may be found very useful by some offices and will be furnished if desired:

FEDERAL AND STATE MARKETING ACTIVITIES, a weekly paper summarizing activities fostered particularly by the respective States.

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS, summarizing weekly statistical and current information on foreign markets and market conditions, prices, farm wages, international trade and similar economic factors.

AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION, a bi-weekly publication, containing legal, economic, and statistical information regarding cooperative organizations at home and abroad.

THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION, - the monthly "blue sheet," reviewing economic conditions relating to agriculture in general.

Take time and pains enough to ascertain whether your office is receiving the first four publications regularly, and also decide which (if any) of the last four you wish to receive. Notify the Washington office promptly of any irregularities, and advise us of your wishes.

4a. CROP CONDITIONS IN TEXAS.

Below are a few interesting items from the July 23 and 24 releases of the Texas Radio Market News Service:

(July 23): "Rainfall the past week is not believed to have been sufficient to have altered to any appreciable extent the situation in the watermelon deals of North and Northeast Texas, and, with the drouth pushing the maturity of the melons, a short shipping season is anticipated, with reduction in carlot shipments. Size appears to be showing up very satisfactorily, so far, and during the past week several cars of 32-34s and up were reported rolling.

"In the Lower Rio Grande Valley, tomato and cabbage seed beds were reported in satisfactory condition, and benefited by light rainfall. Sweet potato plantings in the State as a whole are making good progress, but with hardly more than half of last year's acreage planted this season. Present indications appear to favor the turkey crop, and an average yield of pecans is expected."

(July 24) "The present year bids fair to be a banner watermelon season for Texas, for not only have shipments already passed the 3,000 mark, as compared with 2,137 cars a year ago, but the trend of markets at this week's opening apparently favors a higher trading basis, according to the weekly summary of the co-operative State and Federal Market News Service here."



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 32.

August 16, 1923

(Contents Confidential)

NO DIVISION LETTER WAS ISSUED ON AUGUST 9.

1a. TOMATO SHORTAGE IN NORTHWEST.

Under date of July 30, R. L. Ringer, in charge of the Portland office, sent the following interesting report concerning tomatoes in that district:

"The Northwest is short of tomatoes this season. Ordinarily, by this time of the year, tomatoes from The Dalles section have driven Californias off the market and are being offered freely at 50-90¢ a peach box of about 20 lbs. This season they are selling at \$1.75-2.00 and fancy stock brings \$2.25. Late cars of Californias have been received and must have made the receivers large profits, for they sold at \$3.50-4.00 per lug box.

"We have in all years a 'Western Blight' of tomatoes for which no remedy has been developed, I believe. Weather conditions have been very favorable for it or some other blight this year. Fully 75% of the first setting failed to develop and the succeeding blossoms have fallen heavily. I am told that the same conditions exist in the Yakima Valley.

"The 'Western Blight' attacks the roots and causes the extremities of the branches to curl, especially the lower branches. This year many plants show a yellowing, so I think it is another manifestation of the blight, if not another disease.

"On my own plants there are only 15 tomatoes developing in the first setting, where there should be 125."

2a. CALIFORNIA PEACHES IN BUSHEL BASKETS.

Experiments are being made in the shipment of California peaches in bushel baskets, as indicated in the following letter of August 8 from J. D. Snow, of the Denver office:

"There appeared on the Denver market yesterday California Elberta peaches in round bushel baskets, and I have been informed that a straight carload was shipped to this city as an experiment. I believe the United Fruit Co. of New Castle, Calif., was the shipper.

"There was a wide range in the quality and condition of the peaches and, coming on the market at a time when peaches were plentiful, the trade has found them difficult to dispose of. The entire carlot was sold on the basis of \$2 per bushel and jobbers are now having difficulty in moving them at \$2 to \$2.25 per bushel.

"Buyers here do not seem to think much of the idea of California shipping peaches in bushel baskets, especially when they are practically orchard-run and of varying degrees of maturity. I thought that news of this experimental shipment might interest you."

3a. RESEARCH AND STANDARDIZATION PROJECT.

In connection with the new lists of Inspectors and Market Stations, it will be of interest to refresh the memory concerning the other projects of the Fruit and Vegetable Division. The technical personnel on Marketing and Distribution funds, dealing with standardization and research work in fruits and vegetables, is as follows:

Standardization and Research Project:

H. W. Samson, Specialist in Standardization.

Residence: 232 Willow Ave., Takoma Park, Md.;  
phone Columbia 9011-W.

E. E. Conklin, Jr.

C. W. Hauck.

R. R. Pailthorp (temporarily in Spokane).

R. M. Upton (temporarily in Philadelphia).

G. B. Fiske, preparing bulletins.

Enforcement of U.S. Standard Container Act:

H. A. Spilman, Investigator in Package Standardization.

Residence: 204 County Road, Cherrydale, Va.;  
phone Clarendon 539.

T. C. J. Baker.

4a. WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR AUGUST 4.

Because all Washington offices closed three days last week, it is likely that no issue of Weather, Crops and Markets will be dated August 11.

In the August 4 paper, the following articles were published pertaining to fruits and vegetables:

Page 113- Summary of week's markets.

114- Crop notes on California pears, apricots, cherries, plums, prunes, grapes, apples, and peaches, including figures for canned and dried fruits.

- New York and Massachusetts onion crop conditions.

- Filler on watermelon shipments.

115- Cuba Restricts Potato Imports.

123- List of new publications issued.

124- Weekly review, with special paragraph on pears; f.o.b. prices of fruits and vegetables at shipping points; and carload shipments.

125- Arrivals and prices at leading markets.

- Early Potatoes from Idaho, -by Mr. Ringer.

- Deciduous Fruit in Northern California, -based on review by C. E. Schultz.

- Filler on peach inspections in Virginia.

126- Georgia Ships About 8,000 cars of Peaches, -by Mr. Prugh.

- Marketing of Mushrooms, -by O. D. Miller.

- Additional Field Stations to be Opened.

- Imperial Valley Lettuce Widely Distributed.

- Texas Watermelons, -based on report by Mr. Shoemaker.



TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTS  
Market News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will close
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.* Room 27, Mull Bldg.	918	C. E. Schultz	Pears Peaches Pl. & Pr. Grapes	July 17 July 17 July 17 Aug. 6	Oct. 1 Oct. 1 Aug. 4 Nov. 1
KEARNEY, NEBR. Federal Bldg.	930	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	July 23	Sept. 12
KENNETT, MO. Farm Bureau Office	819	H. S. Stiles	W-Melons	Aug. 9	Aug. 25
CALDWELL, IDA. Commercial Club	928	R. H. Lamb A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Aug. 3	Sept. 15
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.* Chamber of Commerce	846	W. J. Bertush	Potatoes Peaches Apples	Aug. 7 Aug. 20 Sept. 1	Nov. 1 Sept. 15 Nov. 1

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

BENTON HARBOR, MICH.*	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Peaches Grapes Apples Potatoes	Aug. 20 Aug. 20 Aug. 20 Sept. 15	Sept. 15 Oct. 15 Oct. 15 Oct. 15
ROCKY FORD, COLO.	821	R. H. Lamb	Cants.	Aug. 29	Sept. 29
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 4	Mar. 1
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears Peaches Apples Potatoes Cabbage	Sept. 5 Sept. 10 Sept. 13 Sept. 24 Oct. 1	Oct. 15 Oct. 10 Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 15

The following stations closed on dates indicated:

MACON, GA.* Hotel Macon	875	F. H. Scruggs	W-Melons	July 11	<u>Closed</u> Aug. 18
CORNELIA, GA.* Cornelia Bank Bldg.	934	A. E. Prugh	Peaches	July 30	Aug. 11

\*State Dept. cooperating. V.D. Callanan, San Francisco. C.L. Brown, Sodus, N.Y.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. WATERMELON SITUATION IN SOUTHEAST MISSOURI.

H. S. Stiles, in charge of the field station at Kennett, Mo., wrote the following in a letter of July 31:

"The melon crop here is reported to be in fairly good condition for shipment, although about two weeks late. A severe sand-storm in May, followed by heavy rains, was the cause of the delay. An unknown worm, seriously affecting cantaloupes, has made its appearance within the last few days and it is not known yet whether this will affect the melons, although it is believed it will not. The worm bores a small hole through the rind and destroys the interior.

"An estimate by a Frisco representative gives 685 cars for this year, - on their own line. They handle 60% to 70% of the total. Many growers have plowed under their vines. In brief, the outlook is rather discouraging at present, although, when the season opens, conditions may improve."

In a later letter, dated August 3, he added:

"There will be about 100 cars from the Fisk section, and grading and carefulness in packing are to be practiced. It is probable that melons from that section will bring higher prices than the Kennett and Charleston stock. Fisk has mostly Tom Watsons, while other sections have practically all Grays. As far as can be determined at present, the quality will be good this year. Anthracnose has not yet made its appearance, except in isolated cases. Most of the growers will not grade to any great extent. After the disastrous season last year, many have turned their acreage into cotton. A conservative estimate for this year's melon shipments is 850 cars."

2b. CALDWELL, IDAHO, POTATO SITUATION.

R. H. Lamb, in charge of the Caldwell field station, wrote as follows on August 4:

"As in years past, the bulk of the white potato crop in the Nampa-Caldwell section consists of the Idaho Rural. The Cobbler acreage is somewhat larger than usual, but probably will not run much over 15%. There is a very limited acreage devoted to the Triumph and Early Ohio. The last three varieties are, at the present time, nearly all marketed.

"Judging by early diggings, it is doubtful if the yield for this section will average much over 100 sacks to the acre. The weight of a sack of potatoes ranges from 100 to 120 pounds, averaging around 110, and the stock is sold entirely on a 100-lb. basis. Local estimates place the crop around 2,000 cars, about equaling the amount shipped last season from a crop of possibly 3,500 cars. This indicated light yield will not apparently affect the quality; the potatoes simply have not set heavily, and the three to five potatoes usually found in each hill range from medium to large size.

"So far, the carlot movement has been unusually light. Growers are delaying their digging in hope of an upturn in the middlewestern markets. It is expected that next week will witness higher f.o.b. prices and correspondingly heavier haulings and shipments."



3b. "Ring-Faced" Peaches.

In the Division Letter of August 2, item 3b, it was stated that "Ring-tail pack" expressed by 'UM' indicates that only the top layer or two are ring-packed." The proper term for this style of pack is "ring-faced". Correct your code books so that "UM" on the "NI" (Peaches) page reads "ring-faced."

4b. INTERESTING ITEMS FROM SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS:

ST. LOUIS office issues a monthly summary of various products received and unloaded. This report goes to a list of 125, composed chiefly of brokers, commission men, retail dealers, statistical bureaus, and a few growers. They use these reports to check up their own business, - to see whether the volume of business increases or decreases accordingly. Some firms state that it is one of the best reports they receive and they await its release each month. \*\*\*\* During May and June, special telegrams were sent daily to the Louisiana Farm Bureau Irish Potato Exchange; to a broker at Lockport, La., and to a firm at Crystal Springs, Miss. The first two included brief market reports for several cities on potatoes and other products, while the last included shipments of cabbage and tomatoes.

BOSTON office started a new service about April 1, which has increased materially the distribution of market reports in that territory: A number of firms supply our office with mimeograph paper, having their names and addresses printed at the bottom of the sheets. On this special paper, Boston mimeographs the first page of its daily market report, and the respective firms mail the reports to their trade in all parts of the country. They thereby place their stamp of approval on the Government news service. \*\*\*\* A large number of back reports is requested for use in freight claim cases; the file of 25 or 30 extra copies frequently is exhausted and additional copies have to be mimeographed. \*\*\*\* More complete information on passings has been published recently by the Boston office and has met with favor among the trade. At the time the semi-annual report was written, arrangements were being made to secure daily passings at Harlem River, Maybrook, Rotterdam Junction and Mechanicsville. The location of the Boston market increases the importance of data on railroad passings.

LOS ANGELES. In addition to the information published on page 84 of the Division Letter for February 23, 1923, it is of interest to note that the miscellaneous daily report issued at Los Angeles is now reprinted in part by a Japanese newspaper, as well as by other papers in that city and vicinity. The chief special service undertaken during the past six months was the development of radio telephone reports. While onions were being shipped from the Coachella Valley, the radiophone report on onions broadcast from the Los Angeles Union Stockyards, was copied at Coachella and posted for the benefit of growers and shippers at noon each day. This report, though brief, was very popular, and was received 20 hours before the mimeographed bulletins could reach Coachella by mail. A daily summary of shipments and markets is also broadcast by the Los Angeles Examiner.

CHICAGO office is planning to institute a system of special reviews of the principal commodities at the close of the respective market seasons, these reviews to be sent to the regular mailing list. This is similar to the work recently undertaken by the New York office.

5b. POTATO SITUATION AT KEARNEY, NEBRASKA.

A letter of July 30 (now somewhat old), from W. H. Mosier, in charge of the Kearney field station, contains the following interesting data:-

"Potato shipments are later this year than ever, as can be seen from the fact that to date Nebraska has shipped only 8 cars, while to the same date last season the shipments were approximately 50 cars. This is due to market conditions. The growers are holding for \$1.00 per bushel, and it seems almost impossible for them to realize that in all probability it will be necessary for them to take less than this figure. What few sales have been made ranged from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per cwt., with the majority at the lower figure, although a few futures have been sold for slightly more than the larger amount.

"The acreage is estimated at approximately 60% of last season's, with about 70% of this area grown under irrigation and the remainder as dry-land farming. These figures total very nearly 4,500 acres, or the acreage estimated by the Division of Crop Estimates. The yield, however, will be very light. The few fields that have been dug ran anywhere from 50 to 75 bushels, and one grower has decided to let his crop remain in the ground, as he says it will not run more than 25 bushels to the acre, which would not pay for the digging and sacking at the present market price. The local Association now estimates the output for the district at about 600 cars, and personally I believe this figure to be very nearly correct. One bright feature is the exceptionally good quality of the stock. Have personally inspected three or four cars and all of these easily made the U. S. No. 1 grade. The irrigated stock had a tendency to be somewhat dirty at first, but this trouble will pass as the soil becomes dry. The Central Nebraska Cooperative Potato Growers' Association controls about 80% of the output around Kearney".

6b. SALT LAKE CITY MARKET.

A recent letter from J. R. Duncan describes his morning work in Salt Lake City:-

"The growers' market in Salt Lake City is a stock company, made up of about 700 grower members and stock holders, and it owns the ground upon which the public market stands, together with other assets totaling something over \$200,000. There are approximately 200 growers who have stalls and bring their produce in each day. This is one of the important links in the distribution of fruits and vegetables in Salt Lake City. In addition to the growers' market, there are about 12 wholesale fruit and vegetables houses.

"Arriving at the Growers' Exchange about 7:30 A.M., I usually spend 30 to 40 minutes getting prices on the commodities that are supplied at the local market, then proceed to the wholesale houses which are located in two different parts of the city, about three blocks distant from each other. After getting their prices, I return to the Capitol by 9 o'clock. Then I try to write all information that we desire to issue in our local mimeographed report.

"Leaving the office again about 10, I drive to the North Salt Lake stock yards, cover that market, and return about 12 o'clock noon. Altogether, I must travel 18 miles each day to cover the fruit and vegetable markets and live stock market." E.W. STILLWELL.



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK JULY 30-AUG. 4 INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered
<b>EASTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Philadelphia-Misc. R	2:01	2:26	25	20	17140	355
New York- Misc.GNR	1:06	1:27	21	21	6810	344
Atlanta- Misc.	11:45	12:16	31	10	1906	--
Washington- Misc.	12:25	1:39	74	10	1175	--
Boston- Misc.	12:15	2:11	116	10	3300	200
<b>WESTERN CIRCUIT</b>						
Chicago- Misc.	12:12	12:30	18	14	6000	1550
St. Louis- Misc.	11:32	11:52	20	12	3950	350
Minneapolis Misc. R	12:12	12:37	25	18	3660	132
Cincinnati- Misc.	1:48	2:13	25	10	4450	650
Pittsburgh Misc.	11:25	11:51	26	10	2097	49
Kansas City-Misc.Hon.R	11:27	12:57	90	10	8280	1325
Denver- Misc.	1:23	2:58	95	10	2933	--
Washington (Nat'l)GNPRV #5 P'nuts,Honey,Ship,Infm.76					30921	1040
TOTAL	12:28*	1:15*	47*	231	92422	5995
" previous week	12:33*	1:18*	45*	222	92086	5193
<b>WESTERN OFFICES (July 23-28)</b>						
Los Angeles-Misc.GR.Ship.2:09	3:06	57	25	14840	--	--
Portland-Misc.	3:02	4:00	58	12	1805	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				6701	3008453	155252

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK JULY 30-AUG. 4, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Redeived	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Cornelia-	N	2:03	3:23	2834	499	--	--
Fort Worth-	V	1:38	2:18	2770	462	11	--
Kearney	R	12:59	1:52	2069	345	38	--
Macon	V	3:06	5:02	6531	1061	--	--
*Sacramento	NP#5	4:20	4:49	2061	343	135	--
Total		2:25*	3:29*	16,265			
" previous week		1:46*	2:58*	15,381			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				970,995			

# Average time.

\*Reports for July 23-28

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 4,134,700

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK AUG. 6-11, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Atlanta - Misc.	12:23	12:54	31	9	1720	--
New York- Misc. GNR	1:55	2:28	33	17	5448	328
Philadelphia-Misc. R	1:34	2:08	34	16	13904	330
Washington- Misc.	12:35	1:40	65	8	940	--
Boston- Misc.	12:15	2:12	117	8	2640	200
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Chicago- Misc.	12:00	12:18	18	12	4800	1550
Cincinnati- Misc.	1:18	1:41	23	8	3560	650
Pittsburgh- Misc.	11:22	11:47	25	8	1704	49
St. Louis- Misc.	12:29	12:54	25	9	3160	390
Kansas City- Misc.	11:37	12:16	39	8	5320	120
Minneapolis- Misc. R	12:16	1:02	46	15	3350	130
Denver- Misc.	1:02	2:44	102	8	3472	--
Washington(Nat'l)GNPRV P'nuts,Ship,Infm.				30	9300	1043
TOTAL	12:34#	1:20#	46#	146	59,318	4,790
" previous week	12:28#	1:15#	47#	231	92,422	5,995
<u>WESTERN OFFICES (July 30-Aug. 4)</u>						
Los Angeles-Misc.Ship.R	3:56	4:58	62	14	7,897	
Portland-Misc.	2:32	4:00	88	10	7,120	
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				6,871	3,077,788	160,042

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK AUG. 6-11, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Caldwell -	R	2:40	5:17	2853	922	--	--
Cornelia-	N	2:10	3:10	1570	326	--	35
Ft. Worth-	V	1:24	2:24	1832	458	--	1
Grand Junction-	R	1:56	3:04	1111	277	--	--
Kearney-	R	1:09	2:05	2066	413	--	16
Kennett-	V	12:56	2:43	290	145	--	--
Macon-	V	2:42	4:40	5432	1060	--	--
*Sacramento-	KNP	3:27	4:20	4220	703	105	--
TOTAL		2:10#	3:28#	19400			
" previous week		2:25#	3:29#	16265			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				990,435			

# Average time.

\* Reports for July 30-Aug. 4

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 4,228,265



## INSPECTION SERVICE.

1c. TITLE OF INSPECTORS.

The question has been raised as to the proper title to be used by Inspectors in signing correspondence. This is because of the wording of the new Inspector's identification cards. The mere designation of a Federal employee as "Federal Inspector" does not necessarily make this a title for use in signing correspondence. Since the beginning of the Inspection Service, it has been the custom to permit the use of the title under which the man received his Civil Service appointment, or the title "Food Products Inspector."

Inspectors will sign new certificates over the title "Inspector." For the sake of uniformity, it is believed best that this title be used in the future rather than the title "Food Products Inspector," since that term has always been rather indefinite in its meaning. If it is necessary to show the Federal nature of the Inspector's service, the words "United States Department of Agriculture" may be used below the title "Inspector."

In answering correspondence regarding such matters as trade practices, market conditions, or other matters of a more general nature, the titles "Investigator in Marketing" or "Assistant Marketing Specialist," under which most of our men have been appointed, may be used.

2c. POTATO INSPECTIONS IN KANSAS.

Under date of August 8, J. H. Hoover sent the following report from Topoka, Kans.:

"Up to the present time, we have inspected 712 cars and, from all indications, the total will be between 900 and 1,000 cars by the end of the season. The total number of cars shipped from this County will be considerably higher than was estimated, due to the unusually heavy yield. Only a few cars are being loaded today on account of rain which fell last night over most of the County, but digging will be heavy again by tomorrow. The quality remains good, with exception of a few places which are showing considerable decay in the fields. It seems probable that the deal will be entirely over, so that I can leave here by August 25 or a few days sooner.

"The general feeling among the growers seems to be very favorable toward the service. It is generally agreed that the service has made them money and it is evident that the entire Kaw Valley will want Government supervision next year."

3c. NEW YORK SHIPPING-BOARD INSPECTIONS.

The New York report of inspections for the Shipping Board during the month of June is as follows:-

	<u>Fruits</u>	<u>Vegetables</u>	<u>Rejected</u>
For U. S. Lines:-----	300,317 lbs.	162,305 lbs.	9,612 lbs.
For the Munson Line:-----	23,035 lbs.	46,030 lbs.	650 lbs.
	323,352 lbs.	208,335 lbs.	10,262 lbs.

Please be sure to make a note at the bottom of Page 293 of the Division Letter for July 12, referring to this supplementary report, indicating that it is on Page 347 of D.L. for August 16.

4c. NEW LIST OF INSPECTORS.

Within the next day or two, copies of the revised list of inspectors will be sent to all technical employees of the Division. In offices having large forces, the copies will be sent to one man for distribution. If you do not receive yours promptly, please inquire of the man in charge of your office.

Several Inspectors are listed whose appointments have been requested but not yet consummated. It is expected that these appointments will go through in due time and that the men will report for duty in the cities where they are listed. Chicago is shown as the headquarters of J. H. Hoover, although he is at present working in Topeka, Kans., and later will supervise shipping-point inspections of potatoes in South Dakota. H. C. Miller and W. H. Steinbauer are listed under New York, because they both will soon return to that office. The residence address of J. B. Wright, at San Pedro, should be indicated plainly as 4507 - 2nd Ave.; the "7" did not print perfectly.

Please examine the list carefully, and advise Washington office immediately of any errors or omissions. Extra copies will be sent on request. DESTROY all copies of previous lists.

5c. STRICT ADHERENCE TO INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN IN DIVISION LETTER.

Attention has repeatedly been called to such matters as noting re-inspections and second inspections for condition on weekly and monthly reports, and to the proper addressing of letters of transmittal with checks and copies of these letters to the office of Audits and Accounts. Notwithstanding these directions, we receive each week incorrectly addressed letters of transmittal, letters of transmittal attached to other correspondence, and other irregularities of this kind.

We must insist that more care be used in such matters. These mistakes affect the efficiency rating of clerks, and are indications of carelessness on the part of technical men who have to handle such details. Such carelessness raises the question of accuracy and efficiency of technical men in their regular work and has a direct bearing upon the chances of promotion.

F. G. ROBB,

Specialist in Inspection.



## INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF JULY, 1923.

MARKETS	Total Fruits C/L & L.C.L.	Total Vegetables C/L & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total same Month 1922	Inspections for carriers	Declined for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certificate Copy fees
Atlanta	13	36	49	44	12	1	\$180	\$20.00	\$12.
Baltimore	12	14	26	55	8	0	88	10.00	2
Boston	13	142	155	126	7	5	596	15.00	5
Buffalo	11	36	47	59	4	2	152	22.50	17
Chicago	65	132	197	252	22	0	768	7.50	42
Cincinnati	20	18	38	30	0	1	152	-	1
Cleveland	71	79	150	152	48	2	556	27.50	44
Columbus	18	57	75	37	50	2	300	-	1
Denver	7	6	13	16	1	0	44	5.00	1
Detroit	54	91	145	178	34	1	560	12.50	4
Harrisburg	0	3	3	3	1	1	12	-	1
Indianapolis	10	16	26	41	2	1	108	2.50	4
Kansas City	20	35	55	28	7	0	216	2.50	8
Los Angeles	0	1	1	0	0	0	-	2.50	-
Memphis	4	26	30	47	12	0	120	-	13
Milwaukee	44	22	66	62	10	0	220	27.50	7
Minneapolis	15	34	49	43	0	1	180	-	-
New Haven	7	32	39	-	0	1	120	22.50	1
New Orleans	15	74	89	63	62	0	336	12.50	10
New York	230	68	298	384	200	616	1160	20.00	56
Norfolk	4	10	14	4	3	0	52	2.50	3
Omaha	116	17	33	4	12	1	108	15.00	5
Philadelphia	144	50	194	228	137	0	552	140.00	31
Pittsburgh,	84	168	252	376	83	1	1016	2.50	27
Portland,	1	1	2	-	0	0	8	-	-
San Francisco	0	2	2	0	0	0	-	5.00	-
St. Louis	43	55	98	167	53	1	388	2.50	31
Washington	10	25	35	68	14	0	128	7.50	11
Wilkes-Barre	3	10	13	16	1	3	52	-	6
TOTAL	934	1260	2194	2483	783	646	\$8172	\$385.00	\$326

## RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections....	934	Inspections for Carriers....	783
TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections...	1260	Declined for lack of time..	646
Grand Total C/L and L.C.L. Inspections...	2194	Total Fees Assessed	\$8,890.50*

\* The Total Fees Assessed include \$7.50 for inspection of a mixed car at Minneapolis.

## INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING JULY, 1923.

INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS													
Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps		Total Number of Inspection s	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS										
			Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL Quantity INSPECTED		Cuts made to comply with spec- ifications		Items billed short- weight		
STATIONS		N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON		280		208314		18058		226372		983		210	
			15		6646		115		6761		0		0
NEW YORK		533		305890		4670		310560		1527		-	
			55		216707		1410		218117		46		-
NORFOLK		0		0		0		0		0		0	
			-		-		-		-		-		-
PHILADELPHIA		358		218384		6972		225356		1528		0	
			31		19717		832		20549		137		0
SAN DIEGO		***		258850		5771		264621		231		0	
			87		46534		180		46714		-		-
SAN FRANCISCO		***		923594		52160		975754		25		0	
			-		-		-		-		-		-
SAN PEDRO		***		34456		0		34456		0		-	
			-		-		-		-		-		-
TOTALS		1171		1949488		87631		2037119		4294		210	
			188		289604		2537		292141		183		0

\*\*\* No record of number of inspections.

In addition to the above, the New York office inspected 151,736 lbs. of fruit and 311,088 lbs. of vegetables, with rejections of 8,929 lbs., for the United States Lines; and 22,545 lbs. fruit, 74,695 lbs. vegetables, with 2,160 lbs. rejected, for the Munson line.

The Norfolk office made 11 inspections for the Laid-Up Fleet of the U. S. Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation, amounting to 26,420 lbs. of fruit and vegetables passed, and 340 lbs. cut to meet specifications.

The San Pedro office inspected, in addition to the above, 4,260 lbs. of bread and 1,021 lbs. of butter.



OFFICE NOTES:

The Washington office was closed from 1 P.M., August 7, to 9 A.M., August 11, in respect to the memory of the late President, Mr. Harding. In order to receive the usual market reports, telegraph operators were on duty, and about half the force of the Market News section was obliged to work until 1 P.M. Wednesday and Thursday to handle the wires and issue the Washington local report.

Mr. Sherman left on Monday night for Duluth, Minn., to attend the annual convention of American Dairy, Food and Drug Officials, in session August 14 - 17. Yesterday, he addressed the convention on the subject: "Official Commercial Inspection at Shipping Point and Market." He will be back at his desk by Friday morning.

On the return trip from Detroit last week, Mr. Samson stopped at Chicago, to confer with Division representatives, and at Columbus, Ohio, to confer with State officials regarding shipping-point inspection of Ohio peaches and apples. He will leave for Wooster, Ohio, this evening, and on Friday will have another conference with representatives of growers and with officials of the State Bureau of Plant Industry to conclude arrangements for the inspection of peaches, and possibly apples and onions in that territory. Mr. Samson also will endeavor to secure the adoption of the U. S. grades for barreled apples in Ohio.

Mr. Robb starts today on a short period of leave. He is enjoying a motor trip to New York State, and probably will return by Wednesday.

Robert Bier has been transferred from Mr. Samson's project to the Inspection Service, and will be acting in charge of the Inspection headquarters during Mr. Robb's absence. In addition to assisting with the work in the Washington office, Mr. Bier will continue to give attention to the supervision of shipping-point inspection at various points. It will be remembered that he came to the Fruit and Vegetable Division in April, 1920, from the Bureau of Crop Estimates, and since that time has rendered excellent service in grading and standardization work and in supervising inspections at shipping points. A great deal of his time has been spent in the field.

In addition to Messrs. Samson and Butner, Mr. Stillwell also attended the International Apple Shippers' convention in Detroit last week. Leaving Washington on August 6, he stopped at the Cleveland office the following day, and was in Detroit Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. He conferred with local representatives in these cities, and then visited the Chicago office on Saturday, where he also met in conference with officials of the American Fruit and Vegetable Shippers' Assn. B. B. Jones, of the Wisconsin Dept. of Markets, was in Chicago on Sunday, and he discussed with Mr. Stillwell the market reporting work in Wisconsin, especially on potatoes. On the return trip, Mr. Stillwell stopped at the Pittsburgh office, reaching Washington by Tuesday. He reports the work progressing satisfactorily in all of our offices visited.



OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Mr. Boree made a three-days trip to New York State, August 10 to 12. He went to Buffalo to confer with State marketing officials of New York, Pennsylvania and Michigan regarding the cooperative market news service on grapes and other products. Later he interviewed a Civil Service eligible in Rochester.

F. M. Patton, in charge of transportation work for this Division, started Wednesday evening on a month or six-weeks' trip to the West. He will endeavor to make further consolidations of telegraphic reports of shipments from various railroads, and will make a survey of freight claim preventions on fruits and vegetables. In California, Mr. Patton will consult local officials with a view to improving railroad reports in that State. His itinerary calls for stops at Chicago, St. Louis, Omaha, Denver, Grand Junction, Salt Lake City, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Stockton, Sacramento, Portland, Seattle, Spokane, Minneapolis, and St. Paul. On this trip, Mr. Patton will also visit city and field offices of the F. & V. Division.

Paul M. Williams, since his recent return to this Division, has been investigating the possibilities of peanut warehousing under the Federal Warehouse Act, and is now engaged in the preparation of tentative regulations to accomplish this result. Effective a few days ago, he was transferred to the Warehouse Division, under Mr. Yohe, and shortly he will proceed to Aroostook County, Maine, to make a study of the storage of potatoes at various producing points.

Returning from Georgia and North Carolina early last week, E. E. Conklin, Jr., spent the past 10 days in Washington. He now has gone to New York State. He is visiting our New York City office today. On Saturday, he will meet State officials at Albany, and on Monday, other officials of the New York Dept. of Farms and Markets at Rochester, to perfect arrangements for shipping-point inspection of peaches in the territory between Rochester and Lockport. Arrangements also may be effected for potato inspection work. Mr. Conklin probably will act as supervisor of this service at New York shipping points during the next few months, with headquarters at our Rochester office. Mr. Bier, when recently in New York State, made preliminary contacts relating to this work, but when he found that the peach movement would not be active until September 1 he returned to the Washington office. The last 10 days of August, Mr. Conklin will be on leave at Syracuse, N. Y., his local address being 5320 S. Salina St.

C. W. Hauck has started on a month's trip for the purpose of advancing the proposed Federal grades for canning-house tomatoes. He will visit a large number of operators of canneries, as well as many growers. He will be on leave at 54 Erie Road, Columbus, Ohio, the first half of September. Mr. Hauck's itinerary is as follows: August 17-20, Chillicothe, Ohio; 21-24, Terre Haute, Ind.; 25-29, Seymour, Ind.; 30-31, Indianapolis; Sept. 1-15, Columbus, Ohio; 16-19, Rochester, N. Y.; 20-22, Camden, N. J.; 23-25, Salem, N. J.; 26-27, Bridgeville, Del.; 28-29, Baltimore, Md.; Sept. 30, Washington.

Word from F. Earl Parsons, at Timberville, Va., indicates that he had inspected 24 cars of peaches up to August 13, and that the deal in that section may last until the end of this month. He reports that the fruit is of excellent color and quality and of good size.



OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

After closing the field station at Cornelia, Ga., on August 11, A. E. Prugh returned to Washington. He has now gone on a week's leave at Radnor, Ohio, before proceeding West. He expects to reach Caldwell, Idaho, about the 24th, and will then succeed R. H. Lamb, in charge of that station. Mr. Lamb will open the field office at Rocky Ford, Colo., about August 29. On Thursday, the 9th, he gave an informal address at the Kiwanian Club Luncheon, at Caldwell.

G. E. Prince returned from the New York office on Monday of last week, and left shortly thereafter for his home at Wallhalla, S. C., where he is on 10 days' leave. He will be back in Washington next Monday, and then proceed to Spokane, Wash., where he will be in charge of the market reporting service on apples.

The Macon, Ga., field station will be closed Saturday, and F. H. Scruggs, in charge, will come to Washington early next week. He will then go to Philadelphia to assist, while Mr. Biddle takes some leave.

R. H. Shoemaker, who has been in the Chicago office for the past two weeks, spent a day at the Apple Shippers' convention in Detroit, and last Saturday was at Lansing, Mich., conferring with W. P. Hartman, Director of the State Bureau of Foods and Standards, regarding the cooperative market news service to be conducted at Benton Harbor and Grand Rapids. It is expected that he will open the Benton Harbor office about August 20, after visiting fruit shipping points in southwest Michigan.

J. D. Snow, in charge of the Denver Market News office, advises that on August 2, the broadcasting of market reports by radio was begun from Station KIZ on a very powerful set belonging to the Reynolds Radio Company, Inc. State officials are arranging to have receiving sets installed at various points throughout the State, to assist in the local distribution of the reports.

Mailing lists for daily market reports at the new market stations are as follows: Denver 725 names; San Francisco 500 active and 300 inactive; Portland 350; Salt Lake City about 50 and increasing daily (the building up of a mailing list at Salt Lake City was begun only recently). Atlanta office is thought to have about 400 names on its mailing list. At the Sacramento field station, the list includes 900 names.

After assisting with inspection work in Boston for a few weeks, H. T. Longino has now returned to his headquarters in New York City.

Upon the return of G. C. Bayley from annual leave, W. H. Steinbauer, who has been handling his work in Detroit, will proceed early next week to New York, where he will be a permanent member of the Inspection staff.

B. S. Jones, Inspector in St. Louis, was fully recovered from his recent illness some days ago, and it is understood that B. H. Rowell, who substituted for him, is now relieving O. G. Strauss, of the Indianapolis office, who is on vacation August 6-21.



OFFICE NOTES (Cont'd)

H. C. Miller has completed the shipping-point inspection of potatoes at Orrick, Mo., and leaves tonight for Chicago, where he will spend a day or two, before returning to the New York office. Up to August 5, he had a record of 146 inspections in Missouri, and estimated that the deal was about three-fourths completed.

The editor has learned of the following additional Inspectors on leave: G. W. Payne, Boston, August 13-29; his work is being handled by Herbert Graff, of New York, who will later substitute for W. F. Plummer in Boston. J. W. Raplee, Buffalo, August 15-Sept. 3; his substitute is F. E. Kast, of the New York staff. After Mr. Raplee's return it is expected that Mr. Kast himself will go on 10 days' leave at Albion, N. Y. Frederick Wolfarth, Navy Inspector in New York, August 16-Sept. 4. T. L. Kelly, Navy Inspector in Philadelphia, August 13-25; his work being cared for by Herman Beckenstrater.

C. L. Brown is on leave at Sodus, N. Y., until August 25. He will then arrange for the re-opening of the Rochester office of the News Service, possibly making a few trips into nearby producing sections. Reports will be resumed at Rochester early in September. A. L. Thomas, radio operator, came to Washington from Atlanta, and has now gone to Rochester, where he will again serve as operator. Miss Cecelia Daly, who formerly worked in the Market News Section and who has been living at Geneva, N. Y., for the past year, will be reinstated as clerk-typist, to assist in the Rochester office.

Having returned last Saturday from his trip to package factories in eastern Maryland, H. A. Spilman is planning another trip in the interest of the Standard Container Act, beginning the latter part of next week. He will visit factories in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, and possibly other States. He may be absent six weeks or more.

R. C. Butner, of Chicago, was in Montrose, Iowa, yesterday and today, assisting in the grading and inspection of a lot of cantaloupes. Probably 100 carloads will be shipped from that district, and local interests desired the advice of a Federal official as to the proper method of packing and loading. Mr. Butner planned to spend Friday at Topeka, Kans., with J. E. Hoover, and on Saturday will visit the Kansas City office before returning to Chicago.

It is understood that L. D. Mills, cooperative Inspector at Wilkes-Barre, is now on annual leave, and that his work is being carried on by W. C. Lynn, of the Harrisburg office.

After about a year's service as a cooperative employee on the Pennsylvania staff at Harrisburg, H. U. Blampie <sup>has</sup> tendered his resignation, effective August 15. Most of his time has been devoted to standardization work in fruits and vegetables. His departure from the service is regretted.

Mr. Clay is at Madison, Wis., and other points this week. He will be in Cincinnati Monday, and will then return to Washington. After he gets back, Miss Lucy Watt expects to go on a week's leave; she has been in charge of the Market News section in Mr. Clay's absence.



OFFICE NOTES: (Cont 'd)

Additional typists, recently added to the stencil-cutting force, are Mrs. Lillian V. Walsh and Mrs. Nettie Horton. Miss Eleanor Miller has been given a temporary appointment in Mr. Patton's section. Daniel P. McCallum has succeeded Louis DePasquale on the early morning force, handling telegraphic reports of shipments. Wm. E. Hudmon is a new member of the force tabulating shipment reports for the proposed Department Bulletin on carlot shipments of fruits and vegetables; this work is being done under the direction of Miss Mary Hall.

Word has been received from the Treasury Department that our Division will be given Room 62, in addition to the present room - 65 - in the Appraiser's Bldg., San Francisco.

B. E. Shaffer, of Michigan, has been appointed to the Inspection Service and will report in Chicago on August 27 to take the Inspector's training. He received the B. S. degree in Horticulture at Michigan Agricultural College in 1915. During his college course and afterward, Mr. Shaffer had considerable experience in landscape gardening. From 1917 to 1921 he operated a 550-acre produce farm, and early in 1921 was given a cooperative appointment in the States Relations Service, whereby he was employed as County Agricultural Agent for Montcalm County, Michigan. He served in this position until July 1, 1923. Mr. Shaffer's name has already been included in the new list of Inspectors, which is being issued today.

Grant D. Clark, of Iowa, has been given an appointment as Junior Marketing Specialist and reports for duty in the Chicago Market News office today. His name has been inserted under Chicago on the new Market Station Address List. Mr. Clark attended Iowa State College from 1915 to 1918, specializing in Horticulture. He has had experience in farming in that State and Minnesota. During one year of the war, he was in the U. S. Naval Service.

The New York Produce News, of July 14, devoted considerable space to a commendation of the news service inaugurated on the Pacific Coast. The article praises especially the radio-telegraph reports being broadcast from the Mare Island Naval station, these reports now being dispatched from Washington over the western leased wire to San Francisco. The market reports distributed by radio telephone from Los Angeles also were favorably commented upon.

The Produce News for July 21 also contains much material which was prepared by members of the Market News Service. The Western New York Peach Summary, recently issued by Mr. Brown, is copied almost in its entirety, except for the statistical tables. A final report on Imperial Valley cantaloupes, issued by Mr. Callanan at Brawley, is incorporated in a lengthy article reviewing the Imperial Valley season. Considerable space also is devoted to a discussion of receipts of fruits and vegetables on the New York market during the first six months of this year, in comparison with the first half of 1922. These figures were recently released by the New York office.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued):

The Pittsburgh office of the Market News Service is now securing price information on the f.o.b. auction conducted by the National Auction Company in that city.

Mrs. M. M. Aylor has been absent for two weeks on account of illness. Her work is being handled by Mrs. Mills and Miss Sommers.

A new MARKET STATION ADDRESS LIST is being distributed this week, along with the new list of Inspectors. Please destroy all previous lists. Advise Washington of any errors or omissions in the new copy.

W. C. Hangstafer, of the Philadelphia Inspection office, spent the first four days of this week in New York, assisting with the inspection of a lot of California Gravenstein apples for export.

The Baltimore office resumed the issuance of mimeographed market reports on August 7. The mailing list includes about 75 names.

W. L. Evans, of the Washington office, has gone on three weeks' leave to his former home at Lee Center, N. Y. H. V. DeMott is in charge of the Domestic Wool Section in Mr. Evans' absence.

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MARKET STATION ADDRESS LIST

Market News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

WASHINGTON, D. C...... 1358 B St., S.W.; phone Main 4650, Br. 325.  
Administrative Work:  
E. W. Stillwell, in Charge..... Chastleton Apts., 16th & R Sts., N.W.;  
phone North 10,000.  
B. C. Boree, Assisting..... 21 Franklin St., Cherrydale, Va.; phone  
Clarendon 648.  
Market Reports:  
H. J. Clay, in Charge..... 2603 Monroe St., N.E.; phone North 1913-W.  
L. H. Martin, local Reporter  
Transportation Work:  
F. M. Patton, in Charge..... 3809 New Hampshire Ave., N.W.; phone  
Col. 3024-J.  
ATLANTA, GA...... 1714 Citizens & Southern Bank Bldg.;  
phone Walnut 4176.  
T. C. Curry, in Charge..... 264 Greenwich Ave.; phone West 1039-W.  
BALTIMORE, MD...... 339 Custom House; phone Plaza 8348.  
Wm. E. Harrison, in Charge..... 1749 Wilkins Ave.; phone Gilmore 1054.  
BOSTON 9, MASS...... 722 Appraiser's Stores Bldg., 408 Atlantic  
Avenue; phone Main 1601.  
Jos. D. Evers, in Charge..... 14 Talbot St., Malden, Mass.; phone  
Malden 2301-M.  
CHICAGO, ILL...... 505-518 City Hall Square Bldg., 139 N. Clark  
Street; phone State 8520.  
W. H. Hall, in Charge..... 718 S. Seventh Ave., Maywood; phone  
Maywood 1140-R.  
Geo. A. DeHaven, Assisting.....  
Grant D. Clark, Assisting.....  
CINCINNATI, OHIO..... 21-24 Fruit Exchange Bldg.; phone.....  
R. H. Lamb, in Charge..... 530 East 4th St.; phone Main 5741.  
L. H. Wulfekuhl, Assisting..... 2573 W. McMicken Ave., South Clifton; phone  
West 5252-Y.  
DENVER, COLO...... 24 Capitol Bldg.; phone Main 4148.  
John D. Snow, in Charge..... 23 Lemita Apts., 1915 Logan St.; phone  
Champa 3134.  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS..... 1915 F. & M. Bank Bldg.; phone Lamar 1365.  
W. D. Googe, in Charge..... 1901 Bury St.; phone Rosedale 3051.

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KANSAS CITY, MO...... 212 Railway Exchange Bldg., 7th & Walnut Streets; phone Main 2142.  
R. S. Lumbard, in Charge..... 5610 Virginia Ave.; phone Atwater 0575-R.

LOS ANGELES, CALIF...... 206 Wholesale Terminal Bldg., 1304 E. 7th Street; phone Metropolitan 3691.  
H. A. Harris, in Charge..... 5221 S. Normandie St.; phone Vermont 4992.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN...... Room 1, Federal Office Bldg.; phones Geneva 1175 & 1185, and Nestor 2775 (last from St. Paul)  
R. M. Peterson, in Charge..... Robbinsdale, Minn.; phone Hyland 8222.

NEW YORK, N. Y...... 407 Fruit Trade Bldg., 204 Franklin St.; phone Walker 6880.  
O. D. Miller, in Charge..... 4 Highland Place, Maplewood, N.J.  
# S. W. Russell, Assisting.....

PHILADELPHIA, PA...... 308 Bourse Bldg., 4th and 5th between Ludlow & Ranstead Sts.; phone Lombard 4574.  
E. R. Biddle, in Charge..... 128 W. Park Ave., Haddonfield, N. J.; phone Haddonfield 134-M.  
# J. G. Scott, Assisting.....

PITTSBURGH, PA...... 404-406 Andrews Bldg., 21st and Pike Sts.; Bell phone, Grant 2576.  
# J. K. Boyd, in Charge..... 7234 Meade St.; Bell phone, Franklin 5288-J.

PORTLAND, OREGON...... 112 Citizens Bank Bldg.; phone East 2492.  
R. L. Ringer, in Charge..... 530 E. 31st St.; phone Sellwood 0471.

ST. LOUIS, MO...... 400 Old Custom House, 3rd and Olive Sts.; phone Olive 8018.  
V. G. Gibson, in Charge..... Georgian Court, Apt. 232, 5660 Kingsbury Blvd.; phone Cabany 6160.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH...... 304 & 306 Capitol Bldg.; phone Wasatch 240, Line 51.  
J. R. Duncan, in Charge..... 1137 Douglas St.; phone Hyland 5153-W.

# State cooperative employee.

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SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF...... 65 Appraiser's Bldg.; phone Sutter 1527.  
C. J. Hansen, in Charge..... 2433 Spaulding Ave., Berkeley, Calif.

SPOKANE, WASH...... 424 Federal Bldg., Cor. Lincoln St. and  
Riverside Ave.; phone Main 1219.

G. E. Prince, in Charge.....

Mrs. Lola B. Gerry, Assisting... 2319 Maxwell Ave.; phone Maxwell 2315-W.

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The following offices, although no longer operated as regular Market Stations, are centers for the securing of unload information, railroad reports, and brief market reports. The Food Products Inspectors obtain this information for the Market News Service. Inspectors in other cities also report the local market from time to time, as occasion may require.

\*CLEVELAND, OHIO..... 2403 E. 9th St., (14-15 Exchange Bldg.);  
phones Prospect 4271 & 4384.

Ray C. Bish, in Charge..... 1262 E. 86th St.

\*DETROIT, MICH...... 100 Sugar Bldg., 1931 Howard St.; phone  
West 0839.

G. C. Bayley, in Charge..... 5015 Spokane Ave.; phone Garfield 2860-J.

\*No mimeographed reports issued.





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INSPECTION SERVICE - FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

WASHINGTON, D. C...... 1358 B St., S.W.; phone Main 4650, Br. 210.  
F. G. Robb, Specialist in Inspection 1770 Kilbourne Pl., N.W.; phone Col. 8133.  
Robert Bier, Supervising Inspector 1602 Kearney St., N.E.  
W. E. Lewis, Inspector..... 1306 Belmont St., N.W.; phone Adams 2431.  
L. H. Martin, Asst. to Inspector  
BUTTER Inspectors: R. C. Potts and L. M. Davis.

ATLANTA, GA...... 1714 Citizens & Southern Bank Bldg.;  
phone Walnut 4176.  
T. C. Curry, Inspector..... 264 Greenwich Ave.; phone West 1039-W.

BALTIMORE, MD...... 339 Custom House; phone Plaza 8340.  
S. F. Shreve, Inspector..... 1107-9th St., N.W., Apt.3, Washington, D.C.  
W. E. Harrison, Inspector

BOSTON 9, MASS...... 705 Appraiser's Stores Bldg., 408 Atlantic  
Avenue; phone Main 1708.  
G. W. Payne, Inspector..... 9 Norway St.; phone Back Bay 5564.  
W. F. Plummer, NAVY Inspector BUTTER: C. L. Pier

BUFFALO, N. Y...... 220 Federal Bldg.; phone Seneca 2489.  
Jay W. Raplee, Inspector..... 64 Amsterdam Ave.; phone Filmore 7117-W.

CHICAGO, ILL...... 506 City Hall Sq. Bldg., 139 N. Clark St.;  
phone State 8520.  
R. C. Butner, Regional Supervisor, 4918 Glenwood Ave.; phone Sunnyside 8130.  
M. A. Russell, Associate Regional Supervisor, 419 Webster Ave.; phone Linc.7806.  
F. J. Baehler, Supervising Inspector for Ill. & Wis., 547 W. 62nd St.  
J. H. Hoover, Supervising Inspector for Kans. & S. D.  
E. J. Maynard, Inspector  
B. H. Rowell, Inspector  
C. H. Behnke, Inspector  
J. E. Dickerson, Inspector  
S. H. Fountain )  
R. C. Lindstrom )  
C. R. Hewton )  
F. S. Zimmerman )  
Nathaniel Farnworth) In  
Edgar Krumm ) Train-  
P. D. Rupert ) ing  
B. E. Shaffer )  
R. M. Ferguson )  
E. G. Batsford )

BUTTER:  
R. L. Feddersen  
Nick Fennema  
N. A. Dakin

Pathologists, B.P.I.:  
Dr. G. K. K. Link  
Glen B. Ramsey  
Carl C. Lindegren

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CINCINNATI, OHIO..... 21-24 Fruit Exchange Bldg.; phone\_\_\_\_\_.  
R. C. Rose, Inspector..... 3720 S. Lovell Ave.

CLEVELAND, OHIO..... 2403 E. 9th St. (14-15 Exchange Bldg.);  
phones Prospect 4271 & 4384.  
Ray C. Bish, Inspector..... 1262 E. 86th St.  
S. N. Green, Inspector

COLUMBUS, OHIO..... State House Annex; phone Main 7580.  
Paul W. Barnes, Cooperative Inspector, 1261 Lincoln Road; phone Hilltop 4035-J.

DENVER, COLO..... 329 Capitol Bldg.; phone Champa 6958.  
E. F. McKune, Supervising Inspector for Colo., Metropole Hotel; phone Main 2713.  
Paul A. Cauble, Cooperative Inspector, 32 W. 4th Ave.; phone South 7065-W.

DETROIT, MICH..... 100 Sugar Bldg., 1931 Howard St.;  
phone West 0839.  
G. C. Bayley, Inspector..... 5015 Spokane Ave.; phone Garfield 2860-J.

FORT WORTH, TEXAS..... 1915 F. & M. Bank Bldg.; phone Lamar 1365.  
\_\_\_\_\_, Inspector.....

HARRISBURG, PA..... Bureau of Markets, Capitol Bldg.; phone 9000.  
W. C. Lynn, Cooperative Inspector 807 N. Third St.; phone 5805.

HOUSTON, TEXAS..... 406 Southern Pacific Bldg.; phone  
Preston 2124.  
\_\_\_\_\_, Inspector.....

INDIANAPOLIS, IND..... 1101 City Trust Bldg.; phone Main 4668.  
Ober G. Strauss, Inspector..... 1504 N. Penna. St.; phone Lincoln 5550.

KANSAS CITY, MO..... 212 Railway Exchange Bldg.; phone Main 2142.  
O. N. Harsha, Inspector..... 924 Cherry St.; phone Victor 9372.  
R. S. Lumbard, Inspector

LOS ANGELES, CALIF..... 285 Wholesale Terminal Bldg.; phone 65140.  
H. F. Larson, Supervising Inspector 1022 Myra Ave.; phone 591-03.

MEMPHIS, TENN..... 3 County Court House; phone Main 2368.  
Robert A. Smith, Inspector..... 17 S. Rembert St.; phone Hemlock 7560-W.

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INSPECTION SERVICE - FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.  
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MILWAUKEE, WIS...... 423 Federal Bldg.; phone Broadway 3949.  
H. A. Arenz, Cooperative Inspector.. 2016 Prairie St.; phone West 2029.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN...... Room 1, Federal Office Bldg.; phones  
Geneva 1175 & 1185.  
C. H. Johnson, Inspector.....  
R. M. Peterson, Inspector

NEW HAVEN, CONN...... 301 Federal Bldg.; Colony 4030 & 4031.  
F. M. Lyle, Inspector..... 426 George St.; phone Colony 1758.

NEW ORLEANS, LA...... 207 Post Office Bldg.; phone Main 3178.  
C. D. Shirley, Inspector..... 128 Taylor Ave.

NEW YORK, N. Y...... 411 Fruit Trade Bldg., 204 Franklin St.;  
phones Walker 6882 & 6883.  
W. C. Hackleman, Supervising Inspector 15 Toledo St., Elmhurst, L.I.; phone  
Newtown 3128-R.  
A. E. Mercker, Asst. Supervising Inspector (temporarily in field)  
W. V. Stephens, Supervising Inspector for N. J.  
Herbert Graff, Inspector  
M. L. Henry, Inspector  
F. E. Kast, Inspector  
Rogers Koops, Inspector  
H. T. Longino, Inspector  
H. C. Miller, Inspector  
A. H. Polster, Inspector  
W. H. Steinbauer, Inspector  
F. Wolfarth, NAVY Inspector  
A. W. Moloney, NAVY Inspector

BUTTER:  
C. W. Fryhofer  
L. F. Champlin

NORFOLK, VA...... 314 Board of Trade Bldg.; phone Dial 27302.  
H. H. Henderson, NAVY Inspector..... Romagne Apts., 703 W. 29th St.

OMAHA, NEBR...... 435 Keeline Bldg.; phone Jackson 4400.  
V. V. Westgate, Supervising Inspector for Nebr., 3729 S. 14th St.; phone  
Atlantic 3843  
R. N. Balster, Inspector..... 1105 Park Ave.; phone Harney 1435.  
(temporarily in Charge)

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PHILADELPHIA, PA...... 308 Bourse Bldg.; phone Lombard 4576.  
G. R. Warren, Inspector in Charge... West Branch Y.M.C.A.; phone Belmont 8500.  
Herman Beckenstrater, Inspector BUTTER:  
W. C. Hangstafer, Inspector L. E. Gaylord  
T. L. Kelly, NAVY Inspector..... Bldg. A, Navy Yard.

PITTSBURGH, PA...... 402 & 403 Andrews Bldg., 21st and Pike Sts.;  
phone Grant 6560.  
J. J. Gardner, Inspector in Charge.. 108 Wilson St., Overbrook Boro.; phone  
Carrick 2050-J.  
J. A. Marks, Inspector  
M. C. Gregory, Inspector

PORTLAND, OREGON...... 112 Citizens Bank Bldg., phone East 2492.  
R. L. Ringer, Inspector..... 530 E. 31st St.; phone Sellwood 0471.

SACRAMENTO, CALIF...... State Dept. of Agriculture; phone Main 4760.  
W. F. Allewelt, Chief, F. & V. Standardization, 1045- 38th St.  
S. S. Rogers, Asst. Chief.

ST. LOUIS, MO...... 413 Old Custom House; phone Olive 1112.  
B. S. Jones, Inspector..... 4352 Laclede Ave.; phone Lindell 6499-M.  
V. G. Gibson, Inspector

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH...... 304 & 306 Capitol Bldg.; phone Wasatch 240,  
Line 51.  
J. R. Duncan, Inspector..... 1137 Douglas St.; phone Hyland 5153-W.  
A. E. Mercker, temporary Supervising Inspector for Utah.

SAN DIEGO, CALIF...... Hardy's Bay City Launch Office; phone  
Main 543. MAIL address: P.O. Box 112.  
Walter Kingsbury, NAVY Inspector.... 508 Quince St.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF...... 65 Appraiser's Bldg.; phone Sutter 1527.  
(or Navy Pier 14; phone Kearney 1972.)  
C. J. Hansen, NAVY Inspector..... 2433 Spaulding Ave., Berkeley, Calif.  
BUTTER: F. H. McCampbell

SAN PEDRO, CALIF...... Naval Base, Foot of 22nd St.; phone 1119.  
J. B. Wright, NAVY Inspector..... 4501 - 2nd Ave., Los Angeles; phone  
University 3351.

WILKES-BARRE, PA...... 226 Miners' Bank Bldg.; Bell phone 3780.  
L. D. Mills, Cooperative Inspector.. 158 Madison St.; Bell phone 1239-R.





Additional cooperative offices in respective States are as follows:-California - (in addition to Sacramento and Los Angeles):EPESNO, CALIF......

E. J. Powell, Supervising Inspector

WATSONVILLE, CALIF......

C. H. Beasley, Supervising Inspector

Colorado - (in addition to Denver):DELTA, COLO...... Colo. Div. of Markets.

G. W. Dyer and L. C. Archer, Supervising Inspectors

EAGLE, COLO...... Colo. Div. of Markets.

F. A. Powell, Supervising Inspector

GRAND JUNCTION, COLO...... Colo. Div. of Markets.GREELEY, COLO...... Colo. Div. of Markets, 214 P.O. Bldg.

Neal D. Sanborn, Supervising Inspector

MONTE VISTA, COLO...... Colo. Div. of Markets.

W. B. Hawkins, Supervising Inspector

Idaho:BOISE, IDAHO...... State Dept. of Agriculture.

L. G. Schultz, Supervising Inspector

Maine:AUGUSTA, MAINE...... State Dept. of Agriculture.

C. M. White, Chief, Div. of Markets.

New Jersey:TRENTON, N. J...... State Dept. of Agriculture

D. S. Dilts, Supervising Inspector

Virginia:- (in addition to Norfolk):RICHMOND, VA...... Div. of Markets, 313 Lyric Bldg.

F. Earl Parsons, Standardization &amp; Inspection Specialist.

Washington:SPOKANE, WASH...... 424 Federal Bldg.

F. E. Bailey, Supervising Inspector

WENATCHEE, WASH...... County Court House.

F. S. Kinsey, Supervising Inspector

YAKIMA, WASH...... County Court House.

W. L. Close, Supervising Inspector

Wisconsin - (in addition to Milwaukee):MADISON, WIS...... State Dept. of Agriculture.

B. B. Jones, in Charge, Inspection.

NOTE: When other Inspectors are given temporary assignments to supervise shipping-point inspection work in the field, they should be listed on another sheet.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 33

Aug. 23, 1923

(Contents Confidential)

1a. HANDLING THE CALIFORNIA GRAPE CROP.

Mr. Edward Chambers, Vice-President of the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway, and Mr. G. W. Luce, Frt. Traffic Mgr., Southern Pacific Ry., of San Francisco, were in Washington on Tuesday, conferring with Mr. Sherman and project leaders regarding the handling of the California grape crop. These officials were interested particularly in having growers and shippers in California furnished with as complete information as possible concerning market prices and conditions on grapes, in order to secure an even and wide distribution of the crop. They were also interested in the shipping-point inspection service. They reported that the car supply situation was in better shape than it had been for a number of years, and their chief anxiety was to secure prompt release of the cars in the markets. Representing originating roads, they have no control over this factor, which, they stated, now causes them more trouble than any other part of the car service problem.

2a. DO YOU USE THE INDEX TO WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS?

In each Division Letter there is printed an index to the latest issue of Weather, Crops and Markets. Thus far, this index has been on the basis of pages, - simply listing the fruit and vegetable articles found on each page of the paper. This is to enable the reader to glance down through the list until he comes to an article in which he is particularly interested; the index then tells him on which page of Weather, Crops and Markets that article appears.

It has been suggested that an alphabetical index by commodities would be much more useful and would have permanent value. Offices could possibly arrange the material in the form of a card index. To illustrate the change which this would involve, the present form of index (on another page of this D.L.) shows the following material on page 143 of Weather, Crops and Markets:

Page 143 - August 1 crop conditions and forecast of production of apples, peaches and pears; condition of grapes and melons; production of blackberries and raspberries.

- August 1 condition and forecast of sugar beets.

Under an alphabetical arrangement by commodities, the material on that page would be listed by respective products - apples, blackberries, grapes, melons, peaches, pears, raspberries, and sugar beets. Such an index would, of course, require about twice as much space as the present form, but it doubtless would be of much greater value for future reference.

In order to ascertain the wishes of branch offices and field stations, there is enclosed with this Division Letter a separate sheet, on which you can advise the Washington office of your desire in the matter. It is simply a question of whether a sufficient number of persons use the index enough to justify the additional time which would be required to arrange it alphabetically by commodities. If your preference is for an alphabetical index, be sure to return the enclosed sheet promptly. If the present form of index fully meets your needs, you do not have to return the sheet to Washington.

3a. WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR AUGUST 18.

The August 11 issue of Weather, Crops and Markets was combined with the issue for August 18, making a paper of 48 pages. Fruit and vegetable material in this issue is as follows:-

- Page 137 - Review of the markets for week ending August 4.  
 138 - General Crop Conditions August 1, by States and by crops.  
 139 - August forecast yields compared with final yields, for sweet and white potatoes. -Acreage, condition, production, yield, and farm price for sweet and white potatoes, beans, peaches, pears, apples, grapes, peanuts and sugar beets.  
 140 - Time of Issuance and Scope of September Crop Reports, for various crops.  
 141 - Filler on sugar beets in Danzig.  
 143 - August 1 crop conditions and forecast of production of apples, peaches and pears; condition of grapes and melons; production of blackberries and raspberries. -August 1 condition and forecast of sugar beets.  
 144 - Estimated condition and forecast of production for white and sweet potatoes.  
 145 - Estimated condition and forecast of production for peanuts and beans.  
 - Estimated condition of fruits and vegetables in Florida and California.  
 146 - Estimated farm price of apples, peaches and tomatoes July 15, 1922 and 1923. -Averages of prices received by producers in recent years for peaches, cabbage, onions, beans, and peanuts.  
 147 - August 1 farm price of white and sweet potatoes,  
 - Averages of prices received by producers in recent years for white and sweet potatoes and apples.  
 148 - Estimated farm price of beans, July 15, 1922 and 1923.  
 - Farm price comparisons for 1922 and 1923 in pre-war values for white and sweet potatoes, apples, beans, cabbage, onions, peanuts, peaches and pears.  
 - Filler on cabbage acreage in Minnesota.  
 158 - Filler on Valencia onions.  
 159 - Honey Report Issued at Madison.  
 160 - Weekly review for week ending August 4, with special paragraph on cantaloupes; carload shipments of fruits and vegetables.  
 161 - Arrivals and prices of fruits and vegetables, and f.o.b. prices at shipping points, for the week ending Aug. 4,  
 - Nebraska Early-Potato Movement Delayed, - by Mr. Mosier.  
 - Filler on cantaloupe distribution in the Imperial Valley.  
 162 - Weekly review for week ending Aug. 11, with special paragraph on potatoes; carload shipments of fruits and vegetables.  
 - Filler on onion acreage and condition in Minnesota.  
 163 - Arrivals and prices of fruits and vegetables, and f.o.b. prices at shipping points, for the week ending Aug. 11.  
 - Few Watermelons Expected from Missouri, - by Mr. Stiles.  
 - Georgia Season Develops a New Watermelon, - by Mr. Scruggs.  
 173 - Vegetable Seed Crop Acreage Large, - includes percentage of increase for most truck crops.  
 - Commercial Onions in Colorado.  
 174 - Rapid Increase in Lettuce Shipments, with table of 1922 shipments.  
 183 - List of new publications issued.



TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTS  
Market News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will close
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.* Room 27, Mull Bldg.	918	C. E. Schultz	Pears Peaches Pl. & Pr. Grapes	July 17 July 17 July 17 Aug. 6	Oct. 1 Oct. 1 Aug. 4 Nov. 1
KEARNEY, NEBR. Federal Bldg.	930	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	July 23	Sept. 12
CALDWELL, IDA. Commercial Club	928	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Aug. 3	Sept. 15
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.* Chamber of Commerce	846	W. J. Bertush	Potatoes Pears Peaches Apples	Aug. 7 Aug. 15 Aug. 27 Sept. 1	Nov. 1 Sept. 20 Sept. 20 Nov. 1
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.* Chamber of Commerce	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Peaches Grapes Apples Potatoes	Aug. 27 Aug. 27 Aug. 27 Sept. 15	Sept. 25 Oct. 15 Oct. 15 Oct. 15

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

ROCKY FORD, COLO.	821	R. H. Lamb	Cants.	Aug. 29	Sept. 29
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 4	Mar. 1
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears Peaches Apples Potatoes Cabbage	Sept. 5 Sept. 10 Sept. 13 Sept. 24 Oct. 1	Oct. 15 Oct. 10 Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 15
PRESQUE ISLE, ME.	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes	Sept. 15	Apr. 1

The following station closed on date indicated:

KENNETT, MO. Farm Bureau Office	819	H. S. Stiles	W-Melons	Aug. 9	<u>Closed</u> Aug. 25
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\*State Dept. cooperating. V.D. Callanan, in San Francisco.  
F. H. Scruggs, in St. Louis.  
H. S. Stiles, in Philadelphia

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. ADDITIONAL FIELD STATION SUMMARIES.

Field station summaries issued this week are as follows:

Michigan Apple Deal, season 1922-1923, by R. H. Shoemaker,

Michigan Grape Deal, season 1922, by R. H. Shoemaker,

Chadbourn Strawberry Deal, season 1923, by John D. Snow.

2b. IMPORTANCE OF DAILY REPORT FORMS MS-31 AND MS-32.

The Market Men's Daily Report (MS-31) and the Field Men's Daily Report (MS-32) are not only used to compile the Record of Work, as published in the Division Letter each week, but they are the basis of an important part of the Annual Report of the Fruit and Vegetable Division. This Annual Report is now being compiled for the fiscal year 1923, and becomes one of the permanent records of the Bureau. The report goes to the Chief of the Bureau and is used as a basis for part of his annual report to the Secretary, which in turn becomes part of the Secretary's annual report.

Take care, therefore, in filling in your daily record of work. Make it accurate and complete. Whether your office is correctly or incorrectly represented in the Annual Report of the F. & V. Division depends largely upon the statements made on Form MS-31 or Form MS-32. Every one of your daily reports for the entire year is examined and used in compiling the Annual Report to the Chief. It is probable that this year's Annual Report will be mimeographed and distributed to all offices, so that everybody may have a chance to study it and see the work accomplished by this Division.

3b. MISSOURI WATERMELON SITUATION.

A letter from Mr. Stiles, written August 18, states as follows concerning the Kennett, Mo., watermelon deal:

"Shipments are running heavy at the present time, and if the present rate continues through next week, the bulk will have been shipped by next Saturday. From all indications, such will be the case, and as stated in a previous letter, I expect to issue the last report on Aug. 25th.

"There are a considerable number of buyers in the territory,--so many, in fact, that there has been what might be called a buyers' war. The prevailing idea seems to be to buy the stock at any price, as long as it is within reason. This has been practiced most noticeably in the Sikeston district, with the result that the prices there have been higher than elsewhere in the territory. At Kennett there is a scarcity of buyers. The whole deal is characterized by a lack of system in selling, which results in a very wide and apparently contradictory range of prices. There is no association here, and the price made depends upon the shrewdness of the buyer and grower. On this account, there has sometimes been a range of \$100 on stock of the same size and condition. In many cases, stock has been sold far below its value, and also, owing to the over-supply of buyers, in some cases it has brought more than it has been worth.

"Condition is none too good, as considerable of the melons are "necky" and many are spotted. In some sections, stock has been shipped too green. However, at Sikeston, good stock only is in demand, while at Kennett all stock is readily sold, as only 5 or 6 cars are loaded daily and allowances made for condition."



4b. NEW JERSEY POTATO DEAL.

On August 20, Mr. Biddle, gave the following comprehensive summary of conditions in the New Jersey potato sections:

"The New Jersey potato season, as shown by the crop reports, will be one of the smallest since this State became a factor in the potato industry of the country. The crop is short in all sections of the State; the set was light and the size of the tubers is generally small. Conditions in the Northern district, taking Mercer, Middlesex and Monmouth counties into consideration, are even more disappointing than in the Southern district. Because of the very poor seasons the past two years, the acreage was cut considerably throughout the entire section, and the crop was injured more by dry weather. It is very generally conceded that there were nearly as many Cobblers planted this season as Giants; this is against a normal proportion of about 25 per cent Cobblers and 75 per cent Giants. From what observation I have been able to make, I should say that it would have been a good thing for the growers if they had planted all Cobblers, as they seem to be turning out better than the early diggings of Giants.

"The Cobblers have turned out yields varying from 25 to 80 sacks (150-lb.) per acre, with the general yield reported mostly 50 to 55 sacks. While there has been considerable rough stock as a whole, there have been less scab and grub in the Cobblers than ever before in this section. Of course, the size has been small and the growers objected strenuously to the machine grading of their stock, so that all shippers have been running the stock over the 1-3/4" screen instead of the 1-7/8" screen. Further, they have all sold their stock as "machine graded No. 1's" and carefully laid stress on the fact that they were not selling stock up to the U. S. grade specifications. Thus, with favorable market conditions, they all report few rejections on the receiving end.

"The Giants (from present indications) are going to be a hard crop to move satisfactorily. The grower has a very poor crop from all standpoints. In the first place the set is very light and, wherever the tuber grows to any size, it is going to be knotted and crooked from second growth. Many of the tubers could almost be marketed as artichokes. At present dealers are machine-grading the stock and I believe trying to get out the worst specimens of second growth, and are quoting the stock as 'Giants, machine graded, showing some second growth.' I have also heard that some interests are openly advocating selling the stock as 'field run.' If this practice becomes prevalent, you can imagine the demoralized condition into which this deal will develop.

"From the latest reports that I have secured from the Southern district, fully 50 per cent of the stock has been moved. In the upper district about 75 per cent of the Cobblers have moved. Giants will now form the bulk of shipments from this district, and from all indications the New Jersey deal will be entirely over before the middle of September.

.(Continued over)

"The market as a whole has been disappointing to all factors in New Jersey, because, by holding off until Eastern Shore was entirely out of the way, they expected a fast, brisk market. Instead, at best, there has been only a moderate demand, which it has seemed the rapid ~~risers~~ in price have tended to stifle. Kansas and Kentucky, and now Colorado and Minnesota, have dominated the Middlewestern and Southern markets, and Long Island stock, which has the reputation of being considerably better in quality, controlled some of the Eastern markets. The distribution of the New Jersey stock has been confined to a relatively small area, which has been the feature of the rather limited demand.

"These are some of the high lights of the deal as I have found them this year, and the only suggestion that I would make would be that all reporters designate this stock anything they like except as coming up to the standards of the U. S. grades. A car of U. S. No. 1 stock from New Jersey would be an exception, and in the case of Giants I believe will be a rarity."

5b. NEW GRADES FOR CALIFORNIA APPLES.

Effective August 20, new names are now applied to grades for California apples. Market reporters should keep this in mind. H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, submitted the following clipping from the California Fruit News of July 21:

The law covering apple standards was amended by the passing and signing of Assembly Bill 182, which amends the Apple Standard Act of 1917 in the following particulars: Grades for apples under the old act were known as "California Fancy," "B" grade, "C" grade. Under the law as amended by Assembly Bill 182, these grades are changed to "extra fancy," "fancy," and "C". These changes with slightly modified definitions of the grades, are for the purpose of conforming to the apple grades in use in the Pacific Northwest and to avoid confusion in the minds of producers and handlers. The other amendments to the Apple Standard Act as provided in the bill passed this year are of minor importance and were suggested for the purpose of qualifying the meaning of certain terms and designations, to avoid misunderstandings in the interpretation of the law as it has been on the statute books. This amendment of the Apple Standard Act is Chapter 233 of the laws approved this year and should be obtained and read in full by all fresh apple packing interests. The California Warehouse Act was amended by legislation passed and signed this year under Assembly Bill 733. By-products of agricultural products are included in the law now and several minor definitions and errors taken care of.

E. W. STILLWELL

Specialist in Market News.



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK AUG. 13-18 INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted and Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
New York- Misc. GNR	1:47	2:18	31	21	6855	372
Philadelphia-Misc. R	1:46	2:23	37	24	19600	455
Atlanta- Misc.	12:21	1:13	52	10	2293	--
Washington- Misc.	12:36	2:14	95	10	2500	--
Boston- Misc. M	12:23	2:20	117	14	3905	850
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Chicago- Misc.	11:45	12:02	17	14	7200	2650
Pittsburgh- Misc.	11:25	11:43	18	10	2184	49
St. Louis- Misc.	11:59	12:22	23	11	3950	250
Cincinnati- Misc.	1:30	1:55	25	10	4450	650
Minneapolis- Misc. R	11:41	12:17	36	18	3790	132
Kansas City- Misc. Hon. R	12:24	1:29	65	16	6675	120
Denver- Misc.	1:37	3:15	98	10	3671	--
Washington(Nat'l) BGKMNPRV P'nuts, Honey, Ship. Infm.	86				38443	1044
TOTAL	12:36#	1:27#	51#	254	105,516	6,172
" previous week	12:34#	1:20#	46#	146	59,318	4,790
<u>WESTERN OFFICES (Aug. 6-11)</u>						
Los Angeles-Misc. R Ship.	3:57	4:51	54	14	6,115	---
Portland- Misc.	2:32	3:49	77	10	2,600	---
San Francisco-Misc.	4:10	5:27	77	8	2,800	---
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				7,157	3,194,819	166,214

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK AUG. 13-18 INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Caldwell- R	2:13	4:56	9432	1514	94	--
Grand Junction- PR	1:56	2:32	1438	217	--	22
Kearney- R	1:18	2:18	2629	438	6	--
Kennett- V	2:02	2:42	873	146	--	--
Macon- V	2:38	4:35	6161	998	--	6
*Sacramento- KNR	3:58	4:59	4076	679	--	3
TOTAL	2:21#	3:40#	24,609			
" previous week	2:10#	3:28#	19,440			

TOTAL JAN. 1 to date

1,015,044

# Average time.

\* Reports for Aug. 6-11

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 4,376,077

## INSPECTION SERVICE.

## 1c. COOPERATIVE INSPECTIONS IN STATE OF WASHINGTON.

During the year beginning July 1, 1922, and ending June 30, 1923, more than 8,900 Federal-State inspections were made in Washington, as shown in the following report:

Product	- D I S T R I C T S -						TOTAL
	Wenatchee Okanogan	Yakima Benton	Walla Walla Clarkston	Spokane	White Salmon	Seattle Everett	
Apples	4,519	1,807	140	757	103	33	7,359
Potatoes	--	905	15	15	--	44*	979
Pears	32	89	--	1	--	--	122
Cherries	13	67	45	--	--	--	125
Peaches	5	24	--	--	--	--	29
Prunes	--	--	97	--	--	--	97
Onions	--	7	118	--	--	--	125
Strawberries	--	33	--	--	--	--	33
Cantaloupes	--	39	--	--	--	--	39
Asparagus	--	6	--	--	--	--	6
Lettuce	--	--	1	--	--	--	1
Mixed	1	1	--	--	--	--	2
TOTAL	4,570	2,978	416	773	103	77	8,917

\*Note: Some of these by boat consisting of more than carload.

## 2c. POTATO INSPECTIONS IN IDAHO.

On August 13, L. G. Schultz wrote from Boise, Ida., as follows:

"In my letter of last week I wrote you that the week August 5-11 would probably be one of very heavy movement of potatoes. The expected shipments did not materialize for two reasons, the main one being the strengthening of the price, which caused many growers to defer digging in the hope of securing better returns during the coming week. Another reason is that the yield so far has been very light, approximating in most cases 50 to 60 per cent of what was expected. It is the general opinion, however, of most of the prominent dealers I have talked to, that this week will see a much greater movement which should continue to the end of the season.

"We have at the present time about 15 inspectors working and will probably put on 5 more this week. This number should handle the early potato deal, but it will be necessary to put on several additional men in the near future to handle the early shipments of lettuce.

"We have made arrangements to handle the Enterprise and Joseph lettuce deal in Oregon, which will probably start August 18 or 20. The minimum of 200 cars is expected in this district and the points are so located that two men will be able to handle the inspections. The lettuce deal in the Long Valley in Idaho will not be very extensive this season, as there are only about 175 acres planted. If the present favorable weather conditions continue, however, the yield should be much better than last year and a total of 75 to 100 cars should be shipped."



3c. GRADES FOR CALIFORNIA WALNUTS.

In a letter of August 16, the Chief Inspector of the California Walnut Growers' Association, at Los Angeles, submitted the following grades for walnuts as used by that association:

NO. 2 WALNUTS

The No. 2 is a walnut which will pass through a 1- inch square opening.

NO. 1 SOFT SHELLS

The No. 1 Soft Shell is a seedling generally produced by a tree known as the Santa Barbara Soft Shell, and which will not pass through a 1-inch square opening.

FANCY BUDDED WALNUTS

Fancy Budded Walnuts are those produced on trees grafted from selected stock, and must be smooth and uniform in appearance, and which will not pass through a 1-1/8 inch square opening. In this grade there may not be more than 15% rough nuts.

FANCY FRANQUETTES

Fancy Franquettes are walnuts produced by the Franquette tree which will not pass through a square opening of 1 inch, but will pass through a slot opening 70/64 by 3 inches.

JUMBO FRANQUETTES

Jumbo Franquettes are walnuts produced by the Franquette tree which will not pass through a 70/64 by 3 inch opening.

FANCY EUREKAS

Fancy Eureka are produced by the Eureka tree and will not pass through a 1-inch square opening, but which will pass through a 70/64 by 3-inch opening.

JUMBO EUREKAS

Jumbo Eureka are produced by the Eureka tree and are of a size which does not pass through a 70/64 by 3 inch opening.

FANCY MAYETTES

Fancy Mayettes are produced by the Mayotte tree and are of a size which will not pass through a 1-inch square opening, but which will pass through an opening 72/64 by 3 inches.

JUMBO MAYETTES

Jumbo Mayettes are produced by the Mayotte tree and are of a size which will not pass through a 72/64 by 3 inch opening.

(continued over)

GRADES FOR CALIFORNIA WALNUTS (continued)FANCY PAYNES

Fancy Paynes are produced by the Payne tree and are of a size which will not pass through a 1-inch square opening, but which will pass through a 72/64 by 3 inch opening.

JUMBO PAYNES

Jumbo Paynes are produced by the Payne tree and are of a size which will not pass through a 72/64 by 3 inch opening.

FANCY CONCORDS

Fancy Concords are produced by the Concord tree and are of a size which will not pass through a 1-inch square opening, but which will pass through a 72/64 by 3 inch opening.

JUMBO CONCORDS

Jumbo Concords are produced by the Concord tree and are of a size which will not pass through a 72/64 by 3 inch opening.

Our cracking standard on the first two varieties is 88% edible meats.

On all Fancy and Jumbo Varieties our standard is 90% edible meats.

All varieties must be free from culls and must be of good, clean appearance.

For the purpose of securing the above sizes, our graders are built with 1-1/32" square openings instead of 1" square; 73/64" square openings instead of 72/64" square; 71/64" x 3" instead of 70/64" x 3" and 73/64" x 3" instead of 72/64" x 3".

The graders are 18 feet long with at least 6 feet of screen for each size of screen, and the screens are punched in 16-gauge galvanized iron.



4c. DISEASES OF CALIFORNIA GRAPES.

The Bureau of Plant Industry has issued the following statement covering conditions which may occur in California grapes. Both field and market Inspectors should familiarize themselves with this statement as rapidly as possible:

Water-berry. This is a disease found occasionally in Malagas and Emperors which is characterized by a soft flabby condition of scattered berries throughout the bunch, usually in greatest number at the tip or lower end. Affected berries are almost tasteless and so low in sugar that the hydrometer test on bunches showing a large proportion of them may run five or even ten percent below the usual figure for the variety. Berries which have begun to raisin are somewhat soft and flabby but can always be distinguished from Water-berry by their much sweeter taste and tougher skin. Except to the expert grower or shipper Water-berry is not readily detectable in the vineyard. It does develop, however, (that is, a certain proportion of the grapes take on the typical flabby condition) within twenty-four to thirty-six hours after the bunches are cut; hence it is a common practise in districts where the disease occurs to hold grapes in the warehouse for a day or two before culling and packing. From observations made in the fall of 1922, it appears that most packing house managers try to have all Water-berry grapes removed because such grapes (1) spoil the appearance and lower the market value of bunches in which they occur, and (2) are generally supposed to lead to decay in transit, as a result of crushing and consequent leakage of juice.

There is a possibility that some Water-berry develops even after the twenty-four to thirty-six hour holding period, so that stock carefully culled at time of packing might still show water-berry on arrival at Eastern markets. For the good of the industry it is important therefore that inspectors at both ends of the line make careful note of this condition and its relation to carrying quality.

Red-berry. This is a condition often found in Zinfandels which is very similar to Water-berry in Malagas and Emperors, the chief difference being that affected berries (soft, flabby and low in sugar) have a red or brownish-red color instead of the normal blue or bluish-purple. So far as the writer has been able to learn there is no attempt to cull these berries, excepting possibly when whole bunches are affected, though receivers might object to them if they occurred in high percentage, because of their low sugar content.

Mildew. Mildew is a fungus which attacks the berries and practically all young <sup>or</sup> green parts of the vine. On these it appears as a scant white growth consisting mainly of spores mixed with or lying on top of a small amount of mycelium. It may cause any or all of the following: (1) Shelling, (2) dwarfing and cracking of the fruit, (3) spotting and discoloration of the leaves, and (4) sometimes a dwarfing and blackening of both canes and leaves. The inspection service is most concerned with it because of the possible relation it may have to decay in transit. It is known to occur on the stems of the bunches, and while sulphuring in the vineyard and carefully culling in the packing house do much to keep it out of the packed fruit, there is always the possibility that a small percentage of mildewed bunches will go into the pack,

Mildew, (Cont'd).

especially in seasons when the disease has been common in the vineyards. The question then arises whether it predisposes the fruit to decay. Buyers and shippers insist that it does. Warehouse managers are enough afraid of it that they make every effort to keep it out. It seems unlikely that the mildew itself develops farther on the stems in transit or causes decay of the fruit; it may be, however, that through its attack on the epidermis and underlying cells of the stems, it so weakens these that the common molds (Blue Mold, Gray Mold and Rhizopus) readily gain a foothold. Because of this possibility, inspectors should note percentage of mildewed berries or stems and any other facts which might help to show the relation of mildew to carrying quality.

Spanish Measles or black mildew. This is a disease, non-parasitic so far as investigation to date has shown, which occurs mainly on Malagas and Emperors. It is characterized by small irregular black or dark brown dots or patches, none of them more than an eighth of an inch across, scattered over the surface of the berry. The spotting is entirely superficial, never leads to decay and is of importance merely as a blemish.

5c. VIRGINIA APPLE STANDARDS.

Each inspector will receive with this Division Letter a copy of "Virginia Standards for Grading, Packing and Inspection of Apples, Season 1923." Do not overlook this leaflet in your envelope.

6c. ENCLOSURES FOR INSPECTOR'S HANDBOOK.

Separate copies of pages 365 to 368 of this Division Letter are being sent to all Inspectors. These two sheets should be inserted at appropriate places in the Handbook.

F. G. ROBB,  
Specialist in Inspection.



OFFICE NOTES:

E. E. Conklin, Jr., is going to Gypsum, Ohio, by September 1, to handle shipping-point inspection of peaches. After that deal, he will return to western New York.

On his return from a recent trip to Ohio, Mr. Samson reports that at a meeting at Wooster resolutions were passed by representatives of the Horticultural Society and the State Farm Bureau, requesting the Director of Agriculture to adopt the United States grades for peaches and apples. At a conference in Columbus later, Director Chas. Truax expressed his willingness to accede to this request. If this action is taken, it will increase to seven the number of States using the United States apple grades.

Original arrangements to have F. H. Scruggs relieve E. R. Biddle at Philadelphia have been changed, and it is now planned to have H. S. Stiles go to Philadelphia. Mr. Biddle expects to take ten days' leave beginning August 29. Mr. Scruggs, who is now on leave at Knoxville, Tenn., will go to St. Louis to substitute for V. G. Gibson during the next two weeks.

Supplementary f.o.b. apple reports, which are issued at Spokane, were begun this year on August 7.

W. E. Harrison, of the Baltimore office, was in Washington Wednesday, August 22, in regard to issuing daily reports. Mr. Harrison says that two of the Baltimore newspapers are publishing his reports in full and that he is receiving many inquiries and comments in regard to that service.

R. H. Lamb is expected to leave Caldwell, Idaho, on Friday, proceeding to Rocky Ford, where he will open an office and begin issuing reports on cantaloupes about August 29.

George E. Prince reported in the Washington office Wednesday, after about two weeks' leave at his home in South Carolina and in Southern Georgia. He expects to start on Saturday for Spokane, spending a few days' additional leave in Yellowstone National Park.

J. H. Hoover has gone from Kaw Valley, Kansas, to South Dakota, where he will supervise shipping-point inspections of potatoes, probably having headquarters at Watertown. He completed his work in Kansas last Saturday, with about 875 carloads inspected. Mr. Hoover has been requested to put on a potato grading exhibit at the South Dakota State Fair.

Cooperative appointments in California have been consummated for the following men: E. J. Powell, at Fresno; C. H. Beasley, Watsonville; and S. S. Rogers, Assistant to W. F. Allewelt, at Sacramento. Mr. Rogers is a graduate of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, and has been employed for some time in the California Bureau of Fruit and Vegetable Standardization. Mr. Beasley also has had experience with the State Department of Agriculture, and is a graduate of the Vanderbilt University. Mr. Powell was formerly Supervising Inspector for the Colorado Division of Marketing, and was located at Glenwood Springs, Colorado. These three men have been placed on the list of Inspectors.

OFFICE NOTES (continued);

Edgar Krumm has received an appointment as Assistant Marketing Specialist in this Bureau. Mr. Krumm successfully took the Pennsylvania State examinations on the subjects of biology, economics, botany, zoology, economic geography, etc. He has at various times engaged in the occupation of truck farmer, growing, packing and shipping tomatoes in Florida and Mississippi and peaches in Arkansas. Recently he has been active in buying and shipping fruits and vegetables in commercial districts. Mr. Krumm will report in Chicago on August 27, and his name has been inserted on the list of Inspectors.

Edwin G. Batsford has been appointed as Assistant Marketing Specialist and will report for training in Chicago August 27. Mr. Batsford graduated from Cornell University in 1918 with the degree of B.S., specializing in pomology. He also took work in vegetable growing, dairying and forestry. In 1918 he was in military service, and later acted as supervisor and overseer of banana farms in Costa Rica. Mr. Batsford's name has already been added to the Inspectors' list.

Philip D. Rupert has been appointed as Assistant Marketing Specialist, and will also report in Chicago on August 27. Mr. Rupert received a B.S. degree from the New York State Agricultural College, at Ithaca in 1921. During summer vacations he was employed on his father's farm and by the Geneva Preserving Company, and was in the Army from September, 1918 to January, 1919. In 1920 he held a position as Fruit Expert for the Columbia County Farm Bureau of New York, studying the development of insect and plant diseases and served in 1921 and 1922 as Assistant County Agent for Wayne County Farm Bureau. Later he was employed by the Western New York Fruit Growers' Cooperative Packing Association. Mr. Rupert's name already appears on your list of Inspectors.

H. C. Miller has gone to Moorestown, New Jersey, to relieve W.V. Stephens in the inspection of peaches and potatoes. Mr. Stephens is on leave during the last two weeks of August, after which he will go to Maine to start inspection of Aroostook County potatoes. His headquarters in that State will be either Presque Isle or Caribou.

When Mr. Miller finishes the New Jersey deal, he will go to Dover, Delaware, to supervise apple inspections. This work probably will begin about September 15, and last one month.

W. C. Hackleman will spend a few days in the Connecticut Valley, training local inspectors to carry on inspection service on onions. This work will be cooperative and Mr. Harwood, of Massachusetts, will take charge of the inspection force after Mr. Hackleman leaves.

Mrs. Helene Moeckel, of Mr. Patton's section, has resigned, effective August 14. She has been on furlough for some time.



OFFICE NOTES: (Continued):

Mr. Clay has returned from his recent trip to Madison, Wisconsin, and reports that the beekeepers' Chautauque at that place was the largest and best-attended ever held in the North. No other similar gathering has had so notable a list of speakers. Between 400 and 500 persons were registered. Mr. Clay spent Monday in Cincinnati, where he visited peanut brokers and discussed the manufacture of margarin and shortening with officials of the Procter and Gamble Co.

Changes to be made in the address lists recently published are as follows: On the Market Station list, residence address of John D. Snow from 1915 Logan St., Denver Colo., to 32 West 4th Ave., Denver, and telephone from Champa 3134 to South 7065-W. On both the Market Station and Inspection Service list, office telephone number of J. R. Duncan, at Salt Lake City, from Wasatch 240, Line 51, to Wasatch 4374.

The residence address and telephone of C. H. Johnson, Inspector at Minneapolis, are: 2436 - 11th Ave. South; phone Dykwater 6318. Insert this on your list of Inspectors.

Potato market reports for the benefit of Kaw Valley growers and shippers have been issued by the Kansas City office since July 9. These special bulletins were discontinued last Saturday, as the season is about closed.

A REMINDER: Monday, September 3, is Labor Day and therefore a holiday in all offices. This is the last regular holiday until Thanksgiving Day.

R. H. Shoemaker, who has gone to Michigan to open the station at Benton Harbor, is taking a few days' trip through that part of the State gathering material in regard to crops. He wrote from Big Rapids on August 18 that peaches and grapes will not start until around August 25, with a crop of grapes around 75% of last year's, and peaches about 65%, both crops being later. Apples are expected to be heavy, with Duchess shorter in the South part of the State than last year. Mr. Shoemaker expected to return to Benton Harbor this week.

Mr. Robb expects to leave Washington Thursday, August 30, on an extended trip which will include Chicago, Denver, Salt Lake City, Reno, and various points in California, Oregon, Washington and Idaho. He will be gone at least six weeks, and during his absence Mr. Robert Bier will be in charge of the Washington Office of the Inspection Service. Mr. Robb will take a few days' leave at points in Iowa and California. The purpose of his trip is the investigation of the various phases of shipping-point inspection, particularly the inspection for auction sales.

James A. Marks of the Pittsburgh office will go on leave August 27 at Springdale, Arkansas, where he has orchard interests. G. R. Warren, in charge of the Philadelphia inspection work, also expects to take leave at that time at his home near South Bend, Ind. F. M. Lyle, of the New Haven office, will take leave about September 1, going to Quinlan, Texas. It is expected that some one from New York will substitute in New Haven during Mr. Lyle's absence.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

The reinstatement of W. L. Bonn has been requested, effective August 25. He will return to the work in New York, where he had served as an Inspector until his resignation last April. His name should be added to the list of Inspectors, under New York.

The new address of the Cincinnati office is not effective until September 1. Up to that date, all communications should still be sent to 707 Gayman Bldg.

During the next three weeks, Paul Froehlich, editor of the Division Letter, will be on vacation. In his absence, this paper will be handled by Mrs. D. K. Dick, formerly of the Greeley office.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 34.

August 30, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. SOUTHERN LEASED WIRE CIRCUIT.

The southern leased wire service will be put into operation on September 4. Drops will be in State offices at Richmond and Raleigh, and a terminal in the Fruit and Vegetable office in Atlanta. The program in Atlanta will not be immediately enlarged, although within a short time a fairly complete sweet potato bulletin will be issued.

2a. USE OF HAULINGS AND SHIPMENT PHRASES.

As most field men, even at potato stations, use hauling phrases in their f.o.b. wires practically every day, it seems well to repeat the following item, which appeared in the D.L. on November 9, 1922.

"In the past we have rather insisted on the use by field men, in their daily f.o.b. reports, of phrases covering haulings so long as any haulings were being made. With the increased use of storages in producing sections, it is felt that haulings phrases in the fall and winter are now useful chiefly to indicate the rate of harvest and, as a rule, should be included in the daily wires only when unusual. In such cases an explanatory phrase should be added. For example: 'Haulings light account condition of roads.' Occasionally during the season the use of phrases such as 'Haulings increasing,' 'Haulings probably at height, expect falling off,' 'Haulings decreasing,' may be desirable. Haulings terms, when used, should refer to the entire shipping area, so far as possible, and not alone to the town in which the reporter is located.

"The use of shipment phrases has been avoided in the past because actual shipment figures appear in the same news report with the f.o.b. statement. Further, a field man's knowledge of the day's shipments from other important loading points than his own may be confined, at the time his wire to Washington is prepared, to information received by telephone or to statements obtained from buyers who had returned from trips to the other points. Nevertheless, it is true that the field man knows in a general way whether shipments are increasing or decreasing, and whether heavy or light. The occasional use of the code terms for 'Shipments increasing,' 'Shipments decreasing,' 'Shipments probably at height, expect falling off,' is desired. When shipments are not normal they can be described by the use of such phrases as 'Shipments very light,' 'Practically no shipments,' 'Shipments light,' always followed by an explanatory phrase, such as 'account car shortage' or 'account buyers holding off,' etc.

"If phrases in the code book will not cover the meaning you wish to convey, use English. Most situations can be handled by the use of phrases from the code, but do not feel compelled to use a stereotyped code phrase which does not present an accurate picture of the situation."

3a. WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR AUGUST 25:

Responses to the circular sent with last week's Division Letter indicate a probable demand for an alphabetical index, but replies are not yet complete. For the present, material of interest to fruit and vegetable men will be listed as before, and for Weather, Crops and Markets of August 25, is as follows:

- Page 185 - Review of the markets for week ending August 18.  
186 - Acreage and condition of late cabbage.  
187 - Pickles and canning crops, with acreage, yield per acre and production of cucumbers for pickles, tomatoes for canning and sweet corn for canning.  
- Forecasts for late onions, late celery and late lettuce, with acreage, yield per acre and production.  
- Filler on cabbage production and acreage in Minnesota and New York.  
194 - Cold storage holdings of lemons on August 1.  
197 - Weekly review for week ending August 20, with special paragraph on onions; carload shipments of fruits and vegetables; f.o.b. prices at shipping points.  
198 - Arrivals and prices of fruits and vegetables.  
- Colorado Cantaloupe Season Opening, - adapted from summary by Mr. Prince.  
199 - Carload shipments of fruits and vegetables, shown by States, for season to July 31, 1923, with comparisons.  
200 - Carload shipments, continued from preceding page.  
- Fruit and Vegetable Inspections During July.  
- Tomato Shortage in the Northwest.  
- Filler on California peaches in bushel baskets.  
- Filler on Salt Lake City market news work.  
- Additional field stations opened.  
201 - Season's Strawberry Output Below that of 1922, with tables and chart.  
202 - Continuation of strawberry tables.  
205 - List of new publications issued.  
214 - Affect of the week's weather on various crops.



TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTS  
Market News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will close
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.* Room 27, Mull Bldg.	918	C. E. Schultz	Pears Peaches Pl. & Pr. Grapes	July 17 July 17 July 17 Aug. 6	Oct. 1 Oct. 1 Aug. 4 Nov. 1
KEARNEY, NEBR.	930	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	July 23	Sept. 6
CALDWELL, IDA.	928	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Aug. 3	Sept. 15
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.* Chamber of Commerce	846	W. J. Bertush	Potatoes Pears Peaches Apples	Aug. 7 Aug. 15 Aug. 24 Sept. 1	Nov. 1 Sept. 20 Sept. 20 Nov. 1
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.* Chamber of Commerce	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Peaches Grapes Apples Potatoes	Aug. 27 Aug. 27 Aug. 27 Sept. 15	Sept. 25 Oct. 15 Oct. 15 Oct. 15
ROCKY FORD, COLO.	821	R. H. Lamb	Cants.	Aug. 31	Sept. 29
The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:					
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears Peaches Apples Potatoes Cabbage	Sept. 5 Sept. 10 Sept. 13 Sept. 24 Oct. 1	Oct. 15 Oct. 10 Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 15
SPOKANE, WASH.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 10	Mar. 1
PRESQUE ISLE, ME.	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes	Sept. 15	Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Apr. 30
MARTINSBURG, W. VA.	835	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 20	Nov. 1
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples Onions	Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Oct. 18	Apr. 30 Nov. 15 Nov. 15

\*State Dept. cooperating.

F. H. Scruggs, in St. Louis.

H. S. Stiles, in Philadelphia.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. DATES ON DAILY REPORTS:

The Philadelphia office has decided to place dates of daily reports at the bottom as well as the top of the sheets. When the reports are fastened in a file, it is often hard to find a certain date, and this suggestion will doubtless prove useful to other offices.

2b. ORDER OF ARRANGING QUOTATIONS BY CONTAINERS IN APPLE WIRES.

Reporters are requested to use in their apple wires to Washington the following order: Quotations on barrels should come first, followed by those on bushel baskets, boxes, bushel hampers, bulk per cwt., bulk per barrel, and other containers. Stations will rarely report on all these containers in one wire, but the order given above should be followed for such bases as are used.

Market conditions, including the statement for supplies, can be given once before listing any quotations if applicable to all containers; if not, they should be given following each container. The type of container, such as barrels, KEHAB, boxes, etc., need be mentioned once only at the head of the quotations on that type of container. Example: BARRELS CUSUS HANAN HOJAB NEW YORK KASOD KASOB VEXIG KASEB BEST VEPIX. KEHAB CUVUV HAFAB HOMAB NEW YORK KASOD TIJIV KASOK KASOB TISIV KAZOB TIVIX.

3b. CORRECTION ON CHADBOURN STRAWBERRY SUMMARY.

CORRECTION: On the first page of the Chadbourn, N.C., strawberry summary, distributed last week, the name "Rocky Mount Point" should be changed to "Rocky Point".



4b. SITUATION IN MICHIGAN FRUIT DISTRICT:

In a letter of August 23, written from Benton Harbor, R. H. Shoemaker gives a detailed account of conditions in that part of Michigan. Parts of the letter follow:

"The apple crop is generally good in the commercial districts. It is very clean and free from scab, and promises a good yield. The Duchess crop will be pretty well out of the way by August 27, but the Wealthys and Alexanders will just be getting started. Movement of Duchess for the northern half of the State is now under way. Prices to growers on that variety have ranged around 75-80¢ per 100 lbs. for A and B grades, 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " up. The older-bearing peach trees have a very light yield, but the new trees are showing a heavy yield. Prices to growers for Elbertas, 1-7/8" to 2" up have been made at \$1.50-1.65, mostly around \$1.50 per bushel. Early contract sales of this stock were made at \$1.75, but present quotations are at \$1.90-2.00, mostly at the latter prices. Last year the size was running smaller and the commercial sales were made on a basis of 1-3/4" up. One grape juice factory is reported to be contracting with growers at \$60 per ton for Concord grapes, while another is contracting on the basis of average returns of the Southern Michigan Association, and another reported to be making contracts on the basis of the daily average price to growers. Dealers have been unable to get the growers to contract in advance at anything like last year's price, and buyers from city markets do not seem to be greatly interested. Shippers who contracted last year at too low prices and took a trimming on the contracts are very cautious this season, and as a result everyone is waiting. A few sales of Champions have been made for next week at \$62.50 per ton, with prices to growers \$50-55, mostly \$52.50-55.00 per ton. Probably not over 20-25 cars of Delawares are grown, and a few cars have been sold by growers at \$75 per ton and by dealers at \$85.

"Onions are a very poor crop in this State. I was over in the Gunn swamp district and the fields there are white with thrip. It is said that ten days of hot weather in June were detrimental to the crop. Yield in the Gunn Lake Swamp will probably not be over 200-225 bushels per acre. Buyers there are offering freely at \$2.25-2.35 for yellows over 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " screen. Crop is small to medium. Few Reds are grown. One field of whites sold for \$3.00 for the entire crop. Small onions, of course, make bidders for the Philadelphia market.

"Potatoes are looking healthy as far as vines are concerned. However the western side of the State, from Manistee to Muskegon in Mason and Manistee counties is reported to be very dry. No rain has been reported at Manistee since May 18. It is stated that many of the potatoes had not set. We did not examine the plants as much of the crop is late, many of the fields still showing blossoms. There was a rain Monday night in the Western Michigan district, which, I believe, was general over the area, and crop prospects may improve greatly during the next few weeks with a little more rain. There will be a few more 'white rurals' and 'cobblers' in the State than previously."

E. W. Stillwell,  
Specialist in Inspection.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK AUG. 20-25 INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Completed	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted & Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Baltimore- Misc.	1:45	2:15	30	4	200	--
New York- Misc. GNR	1:24	1:54	30	21	6860	401
Philadelphia- Misc. R	1:37	2:11	34	21	17801	405
Atlanta- Misc.	12:15	12:55	40	10	2295	--
Boston- Misc. M	1:07	2:30	83	15	4071	200
Washington- Misc.	12:32	1:58	86	10	2550	--
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Chicago- Misc.	12:45	1:00	15	15	7000	2650
St. Louis- Misc.	11:35	12:00	25	10	3955	380
Cincinnati- Misc.	1:15	1:41	26	10	4470	181
Pittsburgh- Misc.	11:28	11:54	26	10	2225	49
Kansas City- Misc.	12:42	1:14	32	13	3953	120
Minneapolis- Misc. R	11:53	12:28	35	18	3960	132
Ft. Worth- Misc.	1:10	2:50	40	12	2137	--
Denver- Misc.	1:00	2:55	115	10	4242	--
Washington (Nat'l) BGKMNPRV P'nuts, Ship. Infm				87	37394	1055
TOTAL	12:49#	1:33#	44#	266	103,073	5,573
" previous week	12:36#	1:27#	51#	254	105,516	6,172
<u>WESTERN OFFICES (Aug. 13-18)</u>						
Los Angeles- Misc. R Ship	4:20	5:18	58	17	7649	
Portland- Misc.	3:51	5:17	86	10	3180	
San Francisco- Misc.	3:15	4:59	104	10	4026	
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				7,460	3,312,747	171,787

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK AUG. 20-25 INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Caldwell- R	1:53	4:46	10,744	1765	17	--
Grand Junction- NPR	2:06	2:51	1,438	207	-	5
Kearney- R	1:17	2:48	2,760	460	5	--
Kennett- V	1:47	2:29	904	149	2	--
*Sacramento- GNP	3:38	4:14	5,340	890	31	--
TOTAL	2:08#	3:13#	21,186			
" previous week	2:21#	3:40	24,609			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			1,036,230			

° Includes

° Includes reports since Aug. 15.

# Average Time.

\* Reports for August 13 - 18.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 4,520,764



INSPECTION SERVICE.1c. POTATO INSPECTION IN UTAH.

On August 17, Mr. Mercker wrote the following letter describing conditions in Utah:

"I have been out in the field every day training the inspectors. Five men, Barrett, Morrell, Marsh, Richards, and Carlson are inspecting potatoes in Davis and Weber counties. We inspected 25 cars last week and hoped to inspect 60 this week but I doubt if we will reach the 40 mark, as this country was struck by a cloudburst last Monday and digging ceased Tuesday both on account of the wet ground and because all the male members in these counties went to rescue those in distress and to get the road in shape for travel. Eleven people lost their lives in the storm at Farmington and Willard. The debris deposited by the storm covers the roadway at these places 6 to 8 feet and at Willard 30 feet in places.

"Early Ohios are nearly cleaned up and most of these did not grade U.S. No. 1, because of second growth, growth cracks, black heart and internal brown spot, due to heat or too much water standing on the land for too long. Practically all of the Bliss Triumphs are grading U.S. No. 1. This variety of potato seems to do very well out here. Skins are well matured and tight, size is good, and the spud itself is practically free from scab and second growth. We find a few misshapen ones, but not enough to undergrade this variety. The Cobblers are very variable. On the sandy places, they grow good, clean, well-matured Cobblers that grade No. 1, but on most of the heavier soils we have trouble with common and deep scab, also misshapen and sunburnt stock. Two or three cars of Cobblers and Rurals showed considerable sunscald. A few cars showed one or two per cent leak in the early stages, but only a small portion of the affected tubers were involved.

"The prevailing prices for Cobblers are based on our inspections. The dealers pay the growers \$1.50 per 100 lbs. for U.S. Grade No. 1 Cobblers, \$1.30 to \$1.35 for No. 1 stock showing 10 to 15% blemishes, and \$1.10 to \$1.20 for stock showing 20 to 25% or more blemishes. We inspected the first car of prunes Monday, but the market broke badly and the growers decided to discontinue shipping until the market picks up again. They probably will ship today or tomorrow. Only about 50 cars of prunes will move from here. The early potato crop is short, 65 to 100 bags being harvested to the acre. Last year the growers harvested 200 to 300 bags to the acre. Pears will begin to move Monday from the same county that is shipping prunes, Utah County. Inspectors Sorenson and Svenson are handling these. Peaches probably will not move before the 5th of September. We are making inspections largely for dealers."

2c. NEW JERSEY PEACHES:

A letter from Mr. Miller, dated August 28, includes the following paragraph about peaches near Moorestown, New Jersey:

"The Bridgeton house will close about Thursday of this week and by the middle of next week, I look for the bulk of the peach crop at all points to have moved. I will be in a position to leave here before September 15, if necessary.

"Peaches are showing a large amount of worm injury and even after very close grading, most cars fail to meet grade."

3c. INSPECTIONS IN WASHINGTON:

Mr. Kinsey wrote from Yakima, Washington, on August 25, describing the work in that territory, and parts of his letter follow:

"At Walla Walla-Milton-Freewater, prune inspections are heavy, and the men are new at inspecting this fruit. Peach inspections began in this locality this week. Just now inspections of these are running about 25 cars a day.

"One man is beginning the inspection of a few cars of cantaloupes at Toppenish, and I hope to be with him tomorrow. Monday I will spend at Grandview, about fifty miles down the valley, where a man is inspecting a few mixed cars, containing cantaloupes, apples, pears, peaches, prunes and grapes.

"The pear deal is an interesting one in this valley this year. Canneries have not been taking Bartletts in the Northwest as usual. That accounted in large part for the rush of inspections on this fruit in Medford. The price undoubtedly would have gone to pieces for the whole Northwest had not Yakima begun placing its crop in cold storage directly from the trees. It has been estimated that a thousand cars have thus been stored, but I think this is high. In the majority of houses, the packing has been done in cold storage, after the fruit has been cooled, so many more than this number must have passed through cold storage or are still in such storage. Packing is still going on at a good rate. In fact, the crop is not all yet picked from sections in the higher altitudes.

"This placing so much of the Bartlett stock in storage means more inspections than were taken last year. Last year's inspections on Bartletts had been exceeded a week ago. Several cars a day are being inspected now.

"I have seen a good many cars of last year's potatoes still in the cold storage houses. They are for sale at any price, in order to pay the storage bill, but no one wants to handle them. Some of them are in pretty good condition. Only about three weeks ago a few certificates were issued on some of last season's crop."

4c. REPORT OF SHIPPING POINT INSPECTION SUPERVISORS.

An outline for reports of shipping point inspection supervisors is being mailed with this Division Letter to each Supervisor. Please notify the Washington office if you fail to receive your copy.

F. G. ROBB,

Specialist in Inspection.



OFFICE NOTES:

V. D. Callanan will leave San Francisco Friday night, spending three or four days in Sacramento where he will work with Mr. Schultz on a summary of the Brawley cantaloupe deal. From there he will come to Washington, stopping in Denver for a day's conference with Mr. Stillwell. A wire received Wednesday from Mr. Callanan states that Room 62 finally has been occupied by three market news projects in the San Francisco office.

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Brown announce the birth of a son, Albert Loren Brown, on August 27.

Mr. Stillwell expects to leave at the end of this week for a trip which probably will extend over two months, and will include the following itinerary: Chicago on September 4, Omaha the morning of September 5, and Kearney on the afternoon of the 5th; Denver for about a week beginning September 6, and after that date, Rocky Ford, Grand Junction, Salt Lake City, Sacramento, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, Spokane, Idaho Falls, and Minneapolis. The purpose of Mr. Stillwell's trip is to confer with the men in charge of offices at the points named and to assist in working out some details of the news service in Western States. More detailed itinerary will be published later.

We have just learned that H. S. Stiles was married on June 18 to Miss May Skillin, at Lynn, Mass. Late congratulations are extended to Mr. Stiles.

Geo. A. DeHaven, now assisting in the Chicago office, will take the inspection training with the class just starting in Chicago. His work will be taken over by Grant D. Clark.

A wire from Mr. Lamb indicates that he left Caldwell August 27 for Rocky Ford, where he expects to start issuing reports about Friday.

W. H. Mosier will spend a few days in Kearney, Nebraska, after issuing the last report on September 6, and will then proceed to Madison, for a conference on September 10 with B. B. Jones, in charge of the market news work for the Wisconsin Department of Markets. He will spend the rest of the week visiting some of the principal potato producing districts in Wisconsin. The first report from Waupaca probably will be issued September 17.

Mrs. Alice M. Berger, of the Washington office, is critically ill at Sibley Hospital.

Miss Lillian O'Connel, of the Chicago office, has resigned effective September 4. She has been in Chicago since February 1, having transferred from the War Department in Washington.

H. S. Stiles was in the Washington office Monday, en route to Philadelphia.

OFFICE NOTES(Continued):

W. D. Googe, has been appointed Junior Marketing Specialist, and will continue his work in charge of the Fort Worth office. Mr. Googe has occupied that position since September 1, 1922. He holds an A.B. degree from the Georgia Robertson Christian College, and since graduation has taken various courses in marketing and economics. His experience includes teaching in this country and the Phillipines, and commercial work in Alaska, Spain, West Indies and South America.

O. D. Miller and S.W. Russel, of the New York market news office, have issued a review of the 1923 season for southern potatoes on the New York market.

James P. Pruett, messenger in the Washington office, has resigned after five years of service. Mr. Pruett began his work in the Inspection Project, and became a Division messenger when the fruit and vegetable work was consolidated.

On your Inspection Service address list, change the residence address and telephone of W.C. Hackleman as follows: from 15 Toledo St., Elmhurst, L.I. to Apt. 1, 69-28th Street, Jackson Heights, Long Island; and from phone Newton 3128-R to Havemeyer 3000, ext. 117.

J. J. Gardner, of the Pittsburgh office, will supervise shipping point inspection work in West Virginia, beginning about September 1. M. L. Henry, of the New York staff, will assist with work in Pittsburgh while Mr. Gardner is away.

H. A. Spilman is taking a trip through Wisconsin and Michigan, visiting various points in those States, in connection with enforcement of the Standard Container Act.

A letter written from Chicago on August 20 states that Mr. Patton's trip, in the interest of consolidated wire reports from railroads, is meeting with success. He reports that four roads have agreed to make the desired consolidation.

Francis E. Hooper has been transferred from the Hay, Seed and Grain Division to the fruit and vegetable work and left Washington for Chicago August 29, to take inspection training with the present class. Mr. Hooper is a graduate of Massachusetts Agricultural College, and has had extensive experience in fruit and vegetable work.

C. H. Behnke will handle shipping point inspection of onions at various points in Indiana. This will be straight Federal work, and will begin about September 1. It is possible that J. E. Dickerson will assist with this work.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 35

September 6, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. CHANGE IN ISSUANCE OF WASHINGTON MARKET REPORTS.

Beginning September 10, there will be a change in the method of handling market reports in Washington. At present, a portion of the National bulletin list is filled from this office and the balance handled in the Addressing and Duplicating Section of the Department. After next Monday, all of this work will be handled by that section and no National bulletins, carlot summaries, or weekly reviews will be mimeographed or mailed directly by this office. Our Addressograph work also will be turned over to the Addressing and Duplicating Section at the same time, and the Addressograph operator who was retained in this division to give special attention to the fruit and vegetable work will also be transferred. We are promised, however, that we will continue to receive prompt service on addressograph orders.

2a. WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR SEPTEMBER 1.

In the watermelon paragraph of the weekly review as published in the Sept. 1 issue of Weather, Crops and Markets, there are two errors. "Jim Watsons" should read "Tom Watsons", and "The winter melon crop" was intended for "The water melon crop". Material concerning fruits and vegetables was as follows:

Page 217 - Review of the markets for week ending August 25.

224 - Weekly review for week ending August 25, with special paragraph on apples.

225 - Carload shipments of citrus fruits for July; f.o.b. prices at shipping points.

- Georgia Melons Paid some Growers, - by Mr. Scruggs.

226 - Arrivals and prices of fruits and vegetables at city markets.

- Filler on acreage of Colorado bean crop.

- Favorable outlook, Colorado Western Slope, - by Mr. Bertush.

- Filler on peach movement from Western New York.

- Filler on varieties and yield of Texas onions.

227 - Missouri Melons Sold Well, - by Mr. Stiles.

- Boston Onion Market, - by Mr. Evers.

- Filler on onion acreage.

- Filler on onion imports.

- Michigan Peaches Coming, - by Mr. Shoemaker.

228 - South Central Nebraska Potato Movement Half Over, - by Mr. Mosier.

- Carload shipments of fruits and vegetables for week August 19-25.

- Onions Light in Gunn Lake Section, - by Mr. Shoemaker.

- New Publications Issued.

237 - Larger Cranberry Crop in Massachusetts.

238 - Affect of the week's weather on various crops.

3a. VIRGINIA APPLE CROP.

The following article was published August 31 by the Division of Markets at Richmond, Virginia:

"Marketing of the 1923 Virginia Apple Crop is under way. During the last ten days of August buyers or their representatives have been traveling over the principal producing sections getting a line on crop conditions and the quality of the fruit. Throughout all Virginia sections growers have given special care to their crop and as the bulk is in commercial orchards, it generally has received from 5 to 7 sprays during the season. Under such conditions the Virginia Apple Crop as a whole is especially free from scale and scab or other fungus, while codling moth or wormy apples are decidedly scarce. In a few sections hail has damaged some crops, but in most commercial orchards 80% to 90% of the apples will grade No. 1 or higher in quality. In most sections the winter apples are attaining very satisfactory size and red varieties have developed excellent color for this date. Some crops of King David and Grimes Golden are comparatively small in size and this also will hold true with Ben Davis and Gano where the orchards have not been properly thinned.

The Piedmont section of Virginia has developed earlier marketing activities than other producing sections and the famous Albermarle Pippin is in particular demand. Crops of a few hundred barrels from small orchards have been purchased at \$4.00 to \$5.00, while some particularly desirable crops of Pippins in large orchards have sold as high as \$6.00. The bulk of Pippin sales throughout the Piedmont section so far, however, has been at \$5.00 to \$5.25 for No. 1 Pippins 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " and larger f.o.b. loading point or at storage.

Winesaps have shown some activity with sales ranging from \$4.00 to around \$5.00 with most scales at about \$4.50 for No. 1 fruit 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " and up, though at this date growers are not selling rapidly at the \$4.50 price. One sale of a car at \$6.00 f.o.b. for 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " and up has been reported.

The York Imperial market as yet has hardly become established. A few small crops have been purchased from growers at \$3.00 to \$3.25 for No. 1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " and up, but growers generally are disposed to ask \$3.50 to \$3.75 for this class of fruit. Numerous cars of Yorks are being picked and shipped for the early export market.

"In other varieties there has been but little activity reported as yet. A mixed car of No. 1, 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " and up, Grimes Golden, Jonathan and Bonum for shipment the first week in September is reported at \$5.50 f.o.b. for each of the varieties. A car of Delicious No. 1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " and up is reported at \$5.25 f.o.b. and one car Stayman No. 1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " and up at \$5.75. The sale of a car of King David 2" and up mostly around 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " at \$4.00 to the growers is reported to this Division. A few small crops of Ben Davis have been taken by buyers at around \$2.50 in order that they could purchase Winesap or Pippins in the remainder of the Orchard and one sale of Ben Davis at \$3.25 is reported, but in most sections buyers have shown no interest in the Ben Davis variety even at \$2.50. Some orchards in the Valley are picking large, well-colored Bens and shipping for export as a means of thinning their trees."

This may be released if desired.



TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTS  
Market News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.* Room 27, Mull Bldg.	918	C. E. Schultz	Pears Peaches Pl. & Pr. Grapes	July 17 July 17 July 17 Aug. 6	Oct. 1 Oct. 1 Aug. 4 Nov. 1
CALDWELL, IDA. Commercial Club	928	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Aug. 3	Sept. 15
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.* Chamber of Commerce	846	W. J. Bertush	Potatoes Pears Peaches Apples	Aug. 7 Aug. 15 Aug. 24 Sept. 1	Nov. 1 Sept. 20 Sept. 20 Nov. 1
ROCKY FORD, COLO.	821	R. H. Lamb	Cants.	Aug. 31	Sept. 29
ROCHESTER, N.Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears Peaches Apples Potatoes Cabbage	Sept. 5 Sept. 10 Sept. 13 Sept. 24 Oct. 1	Oct. 15 Oct. 10 Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 15
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.* Chamber of Commerce	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Peaches Grapes Apples Potatoes	Sept. 6 Aug. 27 Aug. 27 Sept. 15	Sept. 25 Oct. 15 Oct. 15 Oct. 15

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 10	Mar. 1
PRESQUE ISLE, ME.	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes	Sept. 15	Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
IDAHO FALLS, IDA.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Apr. 30
MARTINSBURG, W. VA.	835	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 20	Nov. 1
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples Onions	Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Oct. 18	Apr. 30 Nov. 15 Nov. 15

The following station closed on date indicated:

KEARNEY, NEBR.	930	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	July 23	<u>CLOSED</u> Sept. 6
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\* State Dept. cooperating.

F. H. Scruggs, in St. Louis.  
H. S. Stiles, in Philadelphia.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. RECENT INCREASE IN NUMBER OF SERVICES.

The number of services sent to correct apparent errors in the market reports has increased greatly during recent weeks. Probably 50 per cent more services are now going out than were being sent two months ago. Part, but not all, of this increased servicing is due no doubt to the added auction reports. Sufficient care must be given at all times to the preparation of auction and market reports so that obvious errors are excluded.

Publication of the Table of Services in the Division Letter was discontinued last spring with the understanding that if services showed much of an increase as a result of not publishing the record that the report would again be given publicity. It is hoped that the cause for servicing will show a sufficient decrease during the current month by a general increase in care in preparing the reports so that publication of the September record the first of October may not be necessary.

2b. CHECK RECORD OF CARS ON TRACK DAILY.

Many services have been necessary lately because some market stations have evidently accepted the reports of arrivals and cars on track as received from the railroads <sup>without</sup> comparing them with the records of the day before. The cars on track on any given day can not, of course, exceed the total of the cars on track the preceding day plus the current arrivals even if none were unloaded during the preceding 24 hours; but numerous wires as received in Washington have contained discrepancies that would indicate that this was possible. Before sending any report to Washington, add the current arrivals to the preceding day's cars on track; and if the total is less than the number of cars on track supplied by the railroads that morning it is evident that a mistake has occurred somewhere, - either in our office in combining figures furnished by the different roads, or in one of the railroad offices. If the mistake is apparently attributable to one of the railroads, it can be traced by making for each road a similar comparison between its individual arrivals and cars on track and its cars on track the preceding day. The road at fault should be called on the telephone and asked to verify its report. Sometimes it will be found that the cars on track the preceding rather than the current day were at fault, in which case a correction similar to the following should be included in the current day's wire immediately following the statement of cars on track: "Correction: cars on track in yesterday's report should have read 54 instead of 45."

3b. FIELD SUMMARIES ISSUED RECENTLY.

Among field summaries recently issued from the Washington office were the following:

Western New York Plum and Prune Deal, season of 1922, by C. L. Brown,  
Western New York Pear Deal, season of 1922, by C. L. Brown.  
Colorado White Potato Deal, season of 1922-23, by Geo. E. Prince,  
and D. K. Dick.



4b. SHIPPING ADDRESS FOR ADDRESSOGRAPH PLATES .

In order to prevent delay in delivery of Addressograph plates shipped to Washington, especially at the close of a field station, it is requested that the following address be used: Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Room 514, 1358 B St., S. W., Washington, D.C. Before shipping any complete field station Addressograph list to Washington at the close of a field deal, care should be taken to segregate the plates into active, inactive and dead. The segregation when made should be plainly marked so that anyone not familiar with the list can tell which is which. The active plates are those which have been in active use during the current season; the inactive plates are those which were active last year but inactive this year; while the dead plates are those which were inactive both last year and this.

5b. CORRECT ADDRESS FOR FIELD SUMMARY ENVELOPES:

Envelopes prepared by field men for use in mailing out summaries should be securely wrapped and clearly marked on the outside with the contents of the package, before being sent to this office. If there is more than one package the number should be noted on the outside wrapper. It is believed that most of the field men are now following this procedure. Occasionally, however, a set of envelopes is lost. In an endeavor to obviate this, it is suggested that all of the sets of envelopes for field summaries be addressed to this Bureau as usual, but in addition be marked on the outside for the attention of Miss Edwards.

6b. TAPE LISTS OF FIELD STATION ACTIVE MAILING LISTS.

The practice of sending in tape lists of the active names on field station mailing lists has been overlooked in numerous instances. It is requested that hereafter a tape list of the active names for the current year of all field station mailing lists be forwarded to Washington at the close of each field station. These tape lists are a necessary precaution in case a shipment of any set of Addressograph plates goes astray, as has happened in the past. The tape lists should be run off on adding machine paper, which no doubt can be purchased locally at most places. This should be done just prior to the close of the station, and any names which have been active during the season but which are inactive at the close should be included.

B.C. Boree,  
Investigator in Market Surveys.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK AUG. 27-SEPT. 1 INC. (REDUCED TO EAST TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted & Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Boston - Misc. M	2:26	2:53	27	18	5320	200
Atlanta - Misc.	12:19	1:03	44	10	2295	--
Philadelphia-Misc.	1:51	2:38	47	22	19974	455
Baltimore- Misc.	1:25	2:33	68	10	500	--
Washington- Misc.	12:39	2:19	100	10	2595	--
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Pittsburgh- Misc.	11:29	11:53	24	10	2254	49
St. Louis- Misc.	12:00	12:25	25	10	3950	380
Cincinnati- Misc.	12:55	1:22	27	10	4475	181
Minneapolis- Misc. R	12:11	12:44	33	18	4640	132
Kansas City- Misc.	12:39	1:15	36	13	3282	780
Ft. Worth- Misc.	1:13	1:58	45	12	1611	--
Denver- Misc.	1:58	3:27	89	10	4630	--
Washington (Nat'l) BGKMNPR P'nuts, Ship.Infm				90	31,864	1,040
TOTAL	12:55#	1:42#	47#	243	87,390	3,217
" previous week	12:49#	1:33#	44#	266	103,073	5,573
<u>WESTERN OFFICES (Aug. 20-25)</u>						
San Francisco-Misc.	2:20	3:20	60	12	3,790	--
Los Angeles- Misc.R Ship.	3:47	4:53	66	17	7,485	--
Portland- Misc.	2:17	3:48	91	12	4,410	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				7,744	3,415,822	175,004

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK AUG. 27-SEPT. 1 INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Benton Harbor- BG		1:15	1:47	3732	537	--	--
Caldwell- R		2:13	4:28	11159	1860	5	--
Grand Junction- NPR		2:07	2:55	1628	233	13	--
Kearney- R		1:28	2:29	2760	460	--	--
Rocky Ford- G		11:37	2:00	467	467	--	--
°Sacramento- GNP		3:47	4:27	5530	922	4	--
TOTAL		1:44#	3:01#	25,276			
" previous week		2:08#	3:13#	21,186			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				1,061,506			

# Average time.

° Reports for Aug. 20-25

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 4,652,332



INSPECTION SERVICE1c. ISSUANCE OF CORRECTED CERTIFICATES.

It has been called to our attention that some inspectors are issuing corrected certificates without making notations to that effect on the original. The fee on the certificate which is corrected should be cancelled, in view of the fact that it is superseded by another certificate. A statement should be made under "Remarks" on the corrected copy, giving the number of the certificate which is superseded.

Proper notation should be made on the new fee slip which is sent to Audits and Accounts, in order that the records may be complete.

2c. SOUTH DAKOTA POTATO INSPECTIONS:

J. H. Hoover, in charge of shipping point inspections at Watertown, South Dakota, wrote on August 29 describing the situation there as follows:

"The Ohios are of good size, unusually smooth and very clean. There is little wire worm or grub injury at this time and it will be very little trouble to make the stock meet requirements for U. S. Grade No. 1. Acreage is slightly less than last year, but I am told that the yield will be somewhat better and they expect a slightly larger crop on the whole. The season is about two weeks earlier than last year. Several cars have already been shipped and a good many are being loaded this week. Stock is still a little green and for a few days everything will be sacked in the field in order to avoid skinning. The stock is being hand-graded, however, and the growers who are loading are making every effort to make it grade U. S. No. 1.

"Of course it is not possible to estimate the number of cars we will inspect, but I hope to get around 1,000 cars during the season. It seems to be the general opinion among local potato men that we are going to have an early winter and they are advising growers to market their crop as early as possible. A few track buyers are on the ground now and indications are that there will be plenty of competition within a short time. A fairly heavy movement will start by September 1 and the deal will be in full swing by September 10."

3c. CONNECTICUT VALLEY ONIONS.

A letter from R. W. Harwood, of the Massachusetts Division of Markets, gives the following information concerning onions in the Connecticut Valley of Massachusetts:

"I was in the Valley yesterday and from all appearances, we are going to have a much better crop this year than last. Some of the fields are running very good size. However, most of the men seem to think that the average run will be somewhat small, but very good quality. There is practically no rot in evidence at the present time, and if we have reasonably good weather from now on, we should not be bothered with it again this year. The set crop was above par and about 400 cars have been stored. From all appearances we can look forward to a much better season than we had last year."

4c. MICHIGAN GRAPE AND APPLE GRADES AND GENERAL LAW:

With this Division Letter, one copy of each of the following circulars is being sent to each inspector on our list: Michigan Grape Grades, Michigan Apple Grades, and General Law Governing the Shipment of Fruits and Vegetables.

5c. PRUNE GRADES AND LETTUCE CIRCULARS.

Each inspector is being mailed copies of prune grades and lettuce circulars for handbooks. These will go from the Washington office September 5, and if you do not receive your copies within a reasonable time, let us know.

6c. U. S. GRADES FOR BARRELED APPLES.

United States grades for barreled apples recently have been adopted by the States of Illinois and South Carolina. They also have been formally approved by growers, dealers and marketing agencies in Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ohio, and have been promulgated officially in Virginia and New Jersey.

7c. LISTS OF LICENSEES.

Lists of inspectors employed in different States are often desirable for reference. Supervising inspectors in charge of shipping-point inspection deals should send a list of licensees as made to F. G. Robb, at the Washington office.

8c. INSPECTION OF NEBRASKA POTATOES:

It should be remembered that inspection of Nebraska potatoes is compulsory. Information in regard to any car can be obtained by wiring the State Department of Agriculture, Lincoln, Nebraska.

ROBERT BIER,

Supervising Inspector.



## OFFICE NOTES:

Geo. E. Prince arrived in Spokane, Tuesday, September 4, according to a wire received in the Washington office Wednesday.

Burton W. Sherburne, of the New Jersey State Bureau of Markets, visited the Washington office Saturday, September 1. He talked over the leased wire schedule for New Jersey market report material which would be in effect after the return to standard time, about October 1.

Miss Mildred Moore returned to duty last Tuesday, after spending her vacation in Asbury Park, New Jersey. Miss Moore reports that she visited the New York office, and saw Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Miller at their home in Maplewood.

F. M. Lyle, who is on his way to Texas where he expects to spend his annual leave, is visiting in Washington for a few days. He was in the Washington office Tuesday.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., is in Port Clinton, Ohio, arranging to open the inspection service on peaches, in cooperation with the Ohio State Department of Agriculture. If preliminary estimates are correct, between 500 and 750 carloads will be certified at Gypsum and Danbury.

R. R. Pailthorp, who has been making a study of the extent and causes of rejections of apple shipments from the Northwest, is now in Wenatchee, Washington. Mr. Pailthorp reports that this piece of research work is likely to show many interesting facts not heretofore fully recognized by the trade. Many companies do not keep detailed records of their allowances, and an attempt will be made to interest the trade generally in keeping complete records to facilitate the collection of this information.

R. M. Upton is now in Philadelphia, making a study of the Borton chain produce stores.

C. W. Egan is spending his vacation in Columbus, Ohio. About the middle of September, he plans to continue his investigations on the grading of tomatoes for canning purposes.

H. C. Miller will open the inspection service on apples in Delaware on September 15. His headquarters will be at Dover, and he can be reached in care of the State Board of Agriculture.

F. J. Baehler expects to make a trip in the near future covering points in Illinois and Wisconsin. He will visit the apple and peach district of Centralia, Illinois, and expects to institute cooperative inspection of cabbage and potatoes in Wisconsin.

## OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

J. J. Gardner will go to Martinsburg, West Virginia, on September 8, where he will train inspectors and supervise the inspection work to be conducted on apples.

The training class for inspectors of Connecticut Valley onions will begin September 6, according to word received from W. C. Hackleman, who will be in charge. It is to be held at South Deerfield, Mass., and will be attended by Messrs. Harwood, Dwyer, and Piper, of Massachusetts.

J. H. Hoover is arranging an exhibit for the State Fair to be held at Huron, S. Dakota, beginning September 10. State officials have told Mr. Hoover that his small exhibit last year attracted more attention than anything else they had.

Miss Frances O. Myers reported in the Chicago office September 5, taking the place left vacant by the resignation of Miss O'Connell. Miss Myers was employed in Washington by the Bureau of Plant Industry, and recently has been working in this Bureau on inspection certificates.

W. C. Lynn is now at St. Thomas, Franklin County, Pennsylvania, conducting shipping point inspection work on peaches and apples.

In the August 29 issue of Marketing Activities is announced the resignation of W. F. Heppe, Specialist in Marketing for the Extension Service of the Colorado Agricultural College. He will become field agent for the Colorado Potato Exchange, with headquarters at Pueblo.

A letter from F. S. Kinsey, received too late for front-page space, contains the following "scoop": "Mr. Nielson's (District Horticultural Inspector) final crop estimate will be issued tomorrow. It will show approximately 18,000 cars for the four counties, Chelan, Douglas, Grant, Okanogan, which are designated as the Wenatchee-Okanagan district." He also states that between six and seven thousand cars are signed up for inspection in these counties, and from present indications, more than this number may be inspected. Sixty or sixty-five men will be required to handle this work.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 36

September 13, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. IMPORTANT RULING ON RELEASE OF CARS

With this Division Letter, a copy of American Railroad Association Bulletin CSD-16 is enclosed for each market station. The bulletin quotes a ruling made by the Interstate Commerce Commission on peddling produce from refrigerator cars, and insists upon their prompt release in order to prevent car shortages during the marketing of perishable products.

2a. WEATHER CROPS AND MARKETS FOR SEPTEMBER 8:

Material which may interest fruit and vegetable men appeared in last week's issue of Weather Crops and Markets as follows:

- Page 241 - Review of markets for week ending September 1.  
243 - Condition of pecan crop August 1.  
- Onion crop badly damaged in Michigan.  
- Less watermelons and cantaloupes than last year, with figures for acreage, yield per acre and production forecast.  
249 - Weekly review, with special paragraph on potatoes.  
250 - Review continued; carload shipments of fruits and vegetables; f.o.b. prices at shipping points; arrivals and prices in city markets.  
- Filler on New York peach shipping stations.  
251 - Michigan Fruit Movement Delayed - by Mr. Shoemaker.  
- The Idaho Potato Situation - by Mr. Prugh.  
- Light Season for Melons.  
252 - Peanut Market Dull and Unsettled.  
- Honey Crop Short.  
257 - New Publications Issued.  
262 - Effect of the weather on crops.

3a. EXPENDITURES UNDER LETTERS OF AUTHORIZATION

Within the next few days there will be mailed by the Section of Audits and Accounts to each holder of a letter of authorization a statement showing items charged against such letter through August 31. Upon receipt of this statement please check same carefully with your records and with the amount allotted for the first quarter by the letter of authorization and advise immediately additional amount needed to cover expenses for this quarter if the amount already set up is found to be inadequate.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF MARKET REPORTS  
Market News Service on Fruits and Vegetables

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IDAHO FALLS, IDA.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30
GRAND FORKS, N.DAK.	843	J. W. Park	Potatoes	Sept. 24	Mar. 1
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.	895	R.H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples Onions	Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Oct. 18	Apr. 30 Nov. 15 Nov. 15

\* State Dept. cooperating.

V. D. Callanan, in Baltimore.



MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. DISTRIBUTION OF MARKET NEWS THROUGH NEWSPAPERS AND FARM BUREAUS.

Releases of unusual interest are originating in the Rochester office. Soon after the opening of the station, C. L. Brown sent a circular letter to editors of country newspapers and Farm Bureau News, enclosing samples of short reviews on peaches and pears. He asked the cooperation of these news mediums, and offered to supply reviews on nine leading crops, if desired, with credit to be given to the Bureau.

The review for each crop covers about half a mimeographed page, and touches such points as estimated production, market conditions to date with latest prices, relative importance of consuming centers, and leading points of origin within the State. First paragraph of the September 8 peach release follows:

"Peaches are a lighter crop than last year, both for New York State and the United States. The August 1st estimate for the total United States crop was approximately 47 million bushels compared to 57 millions last year; for New York State a production of 2,300,000 bushels was forecasted compared to 3,400,000 last year, or about two thirds of last year's crop. New Jersey and Pennsylvania have an increased production but Illinois, Arkansas and Missouri show a big reduction. The crop is much later in maturing all over the country this year with the exception of the Pacific Coast States, where the opposite holds true."

2b. USE CARE IN PREPARING DESTINATIONS FOR FIELD SUMMARIES.

Field men are earnestly requested to use more care in tabulating destinations for their final summaries. At present they contain too many apparently careless errors. It is necessary for us in the Washington Office to go over each set of destinations with copies of "The Official Railway Guide" and Leland's "Official List of Open and Prepay Stations," and make such corrections as seem most obvious and probable. One deal which is now going through the mill and which was prepared by a field man of several years' experience, contains in the list of destinations over ninety points which were misspelled, listed under States which contain no such point, or not to be found in any State.

Every freight agent has on file a copy of the Official Railway Guide, which, although prepared primarily as a record of passenger stations does contain a list of practically every town large enough to receive full carlots of fruits and vegetables. Many freight agents at larger points also have a copy of Leland, which is a complete list of all freight stations in the country. Before sending a field deal to Washington, its author should check over his destinations with one or the other of the above-mentioned guides, to be sure that the list as finally prepared is at least plausible. If a town on your list appears in more than one State and you do not know to which it should be credited, group it under "Unknown." Field men familiar with the deal in question should be better qualified to allocate the towns to their proper States than we can be here in Washington, but occasionally it is impossible to know in what State a town belongs. Checking the list with a guide will at least prevent the inclusion of towns which cannot be found as spelled, anywhere in the country. We realize fully the difficulties encountered in ascertaining the States in questions, since States are usually not given in the wires received from the railroad officials, but this does not excuse the listing of any town under a State when no record of such a town can be found.

3b. ADDITIONS TO POTATOES AND MARKET PHRASE PAGES OF THE CODE BOOK

On PA-PE (Potato) page of the code add

UD-Peoples Russet

GOD-GOS (Miscellaneous Market Phrases) page of the code add

GOD-IQ Carlot sales to outside points, Kansas City basis.

4b. FIELD STATION SUMMARIES ISSUED.

New field station summaries issued recently from Washington include the following:

White County, Arkansas, Strawberry Deal, Season 1923--by W. H. Mosier.

Aroostock County, Maine, Potato Deal, Season 1922-23-- J. D. Snow.

5b. LAST SATURDAY HALF-HOLIDAY

Next Saturday, September 15, will be the last <sup>the</sup> Saturday half-holiday of the season. Beginning September 22, all offices of Bureau in Washington and the field will remain open until 4:30 in the afternoon.

6b. SUPPLIES FOR FIELD MEN

It has ~~come~~ to our notice at a number of times in the past that field men have moved from one point to another expecting the Washington office to furnish them with miscellaneous supplies, such as writing paper, envelopes, pens, carbons, report forms, etc. The only time the Washington office expects to furnish supplies of this kind is when a new man starts out, either from Washington or some market station. All old field men or field men who have operated at least one field station are expected to keep their stock of miscellaneous supplies intact and order whenever any additional is needed.

B. C. BOREE

Investigator in Market Surveys.



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK SEPT. 4-8 INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME.)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reprts	Stencils Cut (Crop Reprts Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted Deliver
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Boston- Misc. M	2:02	2:25	23	12	3280	200
Philadelphia-Misc. R	1:33	2:12	39	18	16485	455
°New York- Misc. GNR	1:11	1:52	41	26	11409	1880
Atlanta- Misc.	11:40	12:30	50	9	1835	--
Washington- Misc.	1:39	2:36	55	8	2080	--
Baltimore- Misc.	1:36	2:45	69	8	400	--
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
°Chicago- Misc.	11:52	12:06	14	28	12600	3700
Pittsburgh- Misc.	11:44	12:01	17	8	1817	49
Cincinnati- Misc.	1:10	1:39	29	8	3580	185
St. Louis- Misc.	12:32	1:01	29	8	3185	380
Ft. Worth- Misc.	1:33	2:06	33	10	1361	--
Kansas City- Misc.Honey	12:47	1:20	33	16	2640	2480
Minneapolis- Misc. R	12:48	1:46	58	15	4510	110
Denver- Misc.	2:21	3:57	96	8	3828	--
Washington(Nat'l)BGKMNPR P'nuts Honey Ship.Infm.				80	29930	1045
TOTAL	1:02	1:44	42	262	98,940	10,484
" previous week	12:55	1:42	47	243	87,390	3,217
<u>WESTERN OFFICES (Aug. 27-Sept. 1)</u>						
Los Angeles- Misc.R Ship.	4:10	5:07	57	17	7490	--
San Francisco-Misc.	3:38	4:51	73	12	3834	--
Portland- Misc.	1:58	4:05	127	17	7760	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				8,052	3,533,846	185,488

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK SEPT. 4-8 INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Benton Harbor- BKN	1:35	2:06	2468	400	--	25
Caldwell- R	2:16	4:05	8930	1786	--	4
Grand Junction- NPR	2:54	3:44	1434	256	10	--
Kearney- R	1:19	2:15	1388	463	1	--
Rochester- NP	3:31	4:02	1030	515	--	--
Rocky Ford- G	2:25	3:57	2224	427	--	9
*Sacramento- KNP	2:39	3:16	6105	1017	10	--
TOTAL	2:23#	3:21#	23,579			
" previous week	1:44#	3:01#	25,276			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			1,085,085			

# Average time.

° Reports and stencils for previous week included

\* Reports for Aug. 27-Sept. 1.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 4,804,419.

INSPECTION SERVICE1c. REPORTING CONDITION OF PACK.

In future, inspectors are asked to make careful reports in regard to condition of pack on certificates. Very often receivers are desirous of reselling car and the factors showing whether pack is tight, well filled, etc. are important items of interest and should be noted.

2c. PEACH INSPECTION AT TIMBERVILLE, VIRGINIA.

In response to a request from Mr. Robb, F. E. Parsons wrote us September 15 describing the peach inspection he recently carried on at Timberville, Va. In part the letter follows:

"This season the Elberta peaches grew very large and some crates could have been filled with as few as 60 to 70 peaches and yet would have shown a very good bulge. In the markets, however, such stock would have taken a decided discount in sales. The buyers' contract with the growers specified minimum size, but did not specify maximum size for the fruit. After receiving a few of the large size peaches and noting the appearance and small number of the fruit, I suggested to the buyer that he arrange with the growers to have large peaches delivered in bushel baskets, as it would assist him materially in selling his cars. He made such arrangements and all four-layer and a part of the five-layer peaches were packed in bushels. In baskets such stock sold for a premium, whereas had it been packed in crates in regular five-layer packs it would have gone very slowly and at a discount. The buyer later informed me that my suggestion saved him more than the total cost of the inspection service.

"I carried on my inspection work at the car as the fruit was delivered, in most instances selecting from 1 to 3 crates from each of the various growers' lots. The buyers' contract called for fruit to meet Federal inspection and to be standard packed. In one instance after several previous warnings, I turned down as improperly packed one lot of 43 crates on one grower's load. The pack was decidedly flat and the fruit too small for the arrangement. After repacking, only 33 crates were delivered to the car from the lot. So you can see that again the inspection made a considerable saving and was a decided assistance in educating the growers to the proper pack, as fruit coming thereafter from the same grower was among the best packs that I received."

3c. ONION INSPECTIONS IN INDIANA.

All cars inspected in the onion district of Indiana will be marked with the number "6" followed by the date which ordinarily would indicate that the car had been inspected in Chicago. Inspectors in other markets should wire the Chicago office for a report giving results on any such cars they are asked to reinspect.



4c. INSPECTION OF WISCONSIN CABBAGE.

F. J. Baehler writes that he has made arrangements with shippers in the Racine and Corliss cabbage districts of Wisconsin to have all cars inspected. Cars will show the usual blue crayon marks, but in some cases shippers will not want inspection cards tacked in the cars. It should be remembered, therefore, that all shipments of Wisconsin district cabbage, unless destined for kraut, are inspected.

5c. FURTHER SUGGESTIONS ON MILDEW.

Dr. Rose supplies the following:

"It is known to the trade that mildew is common in the California grape districts, especially in the San Joaquin Valley. Many shipping point certificates mention that mildew is present in the packed fruit. It is not surprising therefore that receivers should expect the disease to appear often at terminal markets and should blame mildew for any bad condition that shows up.

"For these reasons it is important that inspectors should be cautious about making a diagnosis of mildew merely because the applicant claims 'mildew damage'. The positive signs are: a white mealy growth or covering on berries and stems, particularly cap stems, and a light brown lacy russet on the berries. Diagnosis of mildew cannot be made on the russetting alone; the mealy growth must be found. A scant but distinct growth of white mycelium is a sign, not of mildew but of one or more of the three common rot fungi. Care should also be used not to confuse the white mealy growth with the natural bloom of the fruit or with dirt or sand.

"One other symptom can be mentioned which in two cases inspected in Chicago accompanied the white mealy condition; namely, a faint blue or slate color in berries that showed the typical mildew growth and russetting on the surface. These berries were also soft, watery, and evidently decayed, though the decay may have been due to secondary invasion by a rot fungus."

Robert Bier,  
Supervising Inspector.

OFFICE NOTES:

M. L. Henry reported in Pittsburgh September 10, to assist in that office while J. J. Gardner is in West Virginia supervising the shipping point inspection work on apples.

We are informed that Archie L. Thomas, telegraph and radio operator in the Rochester office, recently has been married, and we extend congratulations.

V. D. Callanan stopped in the Washington office Monday, September 10, leaving the same night for Baltimore. He will handle the market news work there in the absence of W. E. Harrison, who will be on leave from September 13 to 22, inclusive.

W. H. Hall has arranged with Messrs. Behnke and Dickerson, Supervising Inspectors of the Onion deal in Indiana, for an f.o.b. wire from that district. He is issuing a special report on onions for distribution to growers in that district. B. B. Jones, in charge of the Market News Service for Wisconsin has agreed to supply an f. o. b. on cabbage from the Racine and Green Bay districts. Mr. Hall also will issue a special report on cabbage, to be distributed in that district.

T. H. Scruggs will be in Washington next Monday, September 17, leaving immediately for Martinsburg, W. Va.

Mr. Stillwell's itinerary for some time ahead is as follows: Rocky Ford, September 12 and 13; Grand Junction, September 14 and 16; Salt Lake City, September 17 and 18; Sacramento, September 19 and 20; San Francisco, September 21 to 24.

J. W. Park, who is now employed by the Seed Grain Loan office at Grand Forks, N. Dakota, will secure a potato f.o.b. and issue a report on potatoes in that district, according to an arrangement made with the Seed Loan office.

Miss Grace Robinson leaves the Washington office Saturday, September 15, for a vacation which will include Vancouver, Seattle, Twin Falls, Idaho, Denver and Salt Lake City. She expects to be gone about five weeks.

An inspection office will be opened in San Antonio about October 15, with C. D. Shirley in charge.

W. C. Hackleman writes that he has been notified by the United States Shipping Board that the New York office will have the inspection of supplies for the S.S. Leviathan, which has been turned over to the U. S. Lines after her first few trial trips. First loading was last week, and inspection of fruits and vegetables began September 6.

H. T. Longino will go to Houston about September 15 to open the inspection service there. He expects to take annual leave en route. F. S. Zimmerman, who has been taking the inspection training in Chicago, will take Mr. Longino's place on the New York staff.



OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

F. G. Robb was in Sacramento on September 12, and expects to be in Fresno on the 14th. His mail address will be 290 Calaveras Avenue, Fresno, California. He will be there for some time during the grape shipping season.

Alfred E. DeGroot, Assistant in Package Listing, has been transferred to this Division from the Bureau of Insecticide and Fungicide. He will assist with the work of Mr. Baker, under authority of the Standard Container Act.

Dr. Rose has returned from Chicago, where he assisted with the training class of inspectors.

W. L. Evans has returned to the Washington office, after a vacation spent at Lee Center, New York.

Miss Lucy Watt returned Friday, September 7, from her vacation in Pennsylvania.

Announcement has been received of the marriage of Miss Charlotte Unterweiser, of the New York market news office, to Frederic E. Kast, of the inspection service in that city, on Wednesday, September 5, at the home of the bride's mother. Mr. and Mrs. Kast left after the ceremony for a two weeks' honeymoon at Lake George.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., is leaving Port Clinton for Rochester, New York. He will supervise shipping point inspection on potatoes and peaches at that point.

H. W. Samson will confer with the Maine Potato Growers' Association concerning shipping point inspection. W. V. Stephens leaves New York, September 14 for Caribou, Maine, which will be his headquarters.

W. C. Lynn expects to go to Floradale and Biglerville, Pa., to supervise shipping point inspection of peaches. His address probably will be Floradale.

Walter L. Murphy has resigned and will leave the Washington office Saturday, September 15. He will enter a school at Providence, R. I. Mr. Murphy has been employed in this Division since October, 1922, assisting with the clerical work in connection with the issuance of market news bulletins.

W. C. Hackleman has returned from South Deerfield, Mass., to the New York office.

A card from Mr. Patton states that he was in Portland on September 8 and hoped to return to Washington by September 16.

M. C. Gregory will reopen the Fort Worth inspection service around the middle of September, and R. C. Lindstrom will go to Pittsburgh in his place.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 37

September 20, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. SYMBOL NUMBERS ON VOUCHERS.

It has been observed that many of the vouchers being received from the field show the symbol number in various and inconspicuous places. The Office of Audits and Accounts suggests that the symbol number be shown in the space at the extreme right of the appropriation line. Kindly follow this suggestion in the future, when submitting Forms 3, 4 and 5 vouchers.

2a. PRODUCE REQUIRED BY THE S. S. "LEVIATHAN."

On a recent trip to New York, the editor of the D.L. visited the giant steamship "Leviathan," of the United States Lines. The length of the vessel is 950 ft. If stood on end beside the Washington Monument, this ship would tower almost twice as high as the monument (actually 1-3/4 times as high). From keel to top of stacks, the "Leviathan" measures 184 ft. In furnishings and equipment, it compares with the finest hotels. Unusual items include a complete bank, a printing office where a daily newspaper is issued, an "apartment" for dogs on the top deck, gymnasiums and a beautiful large swimming pool.

The "Leviathan" has accommodations for about 3,400 passengers, in addition to the crew of 1,100. Not all rooms are occupied in the winter, but during the summer season a large amount of food is required on each voyage to care for the 4,500 persons on board. It should be remembered that our New York inspection staff now inspects the fruits and vegetables used on the "Leviathan," as well as on other large steamships whose port is New York City.

A fine illustrated book concerning the "Leviathan" has been published by the U.S. Lines, and from it the following figures have been taken:

Some of the Foodstuffs Required for One Round Trip.

Apples.....	600 bxs.	Meat.....	186,000 lbs.
Cabbage.....	20,000 lbs.	Ham.....	20,000 lbs.
Potatoes.....	60,000 lbs.	Fish.....	56,000 lbs.
Carrots.....	14,000 lbs.	Game.....	6,000 lbs.
Tomatoes.....	1,600 lbs.	Jams, etc.....	20,000 lbs.
Grapes.....	2,000 lbs.	Flour.....	70,000 lbs.
Oranges.....	400 bxs.	Sugar.....	16,000 lbs.
Butter.....	15,000 lbs.	Tea and coffee...	3 tons
Eggs.....	80,000	Tobacco.....	2,240 lbs.
Milk.....	2,000 qts.	Cigarettes.....	250,000

Part of the "Leviathan's" New Equipment.

Dining-room china	102,000 pieces	Linen.....	190,000
Restaurant china.	119,278 "	Refrigerators....	42
Glassware.....	48,084 "	Clocks.....	140
Silverware.....	71,798 "	Telephones.....	600
Kitchen utensils.	23,000 "	Electric lights..	15,000
Blankets.....	34,000 lbs.	Motors.....	312
Mattresses.....	4,499	Lifeboats.....	76



3a. A COMMODITY INDEX TO "WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS."

In response to the recent inquiry, about 25 employees stated that they very much desired an alphabetical index by commodities for each issue of the weekly paper- Weather, Crops and Markets.

As an experiment, such an index has been prepared by Mrs. Dick for the paper dated September 15. That is the large paper for the month, containing all of the latest crop estimates. The new index for such an issue of Weather, Crops and Markets requires three full pages. Usually only one or two pages will be needed for the index.

Mr. Snow, of the Denver office, suggested that the new index be published in a form which will permit of its being filed with Weather, Crops and Markets, instead of with the Division Letter. For that reason, the sheets containing the latest index are attached to the back of this issue of the D.L. Those who so desire can easily remove the two sheets of paper without affecting the Division Letter itself.

Please let us have your favorable or unfavorable reaction to the new index. Is it too bulky in its new form? Do you find it more useful than was the old index which simply listed together all the articles found on one page?

4a. ONION SITUATION IN OREGON.

In an interesting letter of September 6, R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, writes as follows concerning the onion crop in that section:-

"The announcement of a diminished onion crop for the central and eastern portions of the country, which came over the wire last Saturday, was welcome news to Oregon. Its crop is made and is now curing, and the prospects are for one of the largest and best-quality crops ever put out. It is expected that 600 cars will be shipped, mostly on the Oregon Growers grades, which call for a minimum of 1-3/4 inches instead of the 1-1/4 inches allowed by the Federal grades.

"The crop is practically all pulled now and lying in the fields, where the growers allow the onions to cure about three weeks before moving them into their onion houses. They store them all winter and put them up whenever a lot or car is sold. The growing season has been very favorable. The heavy rain in July kept the onions growing steadily and came too early to start undesirable growths. The crop has matured about two weeks early, and ideal drying weather is now curing it.

"We Oregonians are supposed to be foolish in our liking for rain, but it even extends to the onion growers with their harvested crops lying in the field. A good rain and then some clear weather to dry them off and to enable the farmer to get them in, is claimed to be the very best medicine for the crop at this stage. The onion men claim that a good rain now will set and harden the onion and improve its keeping qualities. There have been seasons when the rainmaker went too far, however, and kept it up until the onions were rain-stained, but usually fine weather prevails for several weeks after our first fall shower."



## TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
SACRAMENTO, Calif.** Room 27, Hull Bldg.	918	C. E. Schultz	Pears Peaches Pl. & Pr.* Grapes	July 17 July 17 July 17 Aug. 6	Oct. 1 Oct. 1 Aug. 4* Nov. 1
CALDWELL, IDA. Commercial Club	928	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Aug. 3	Sept. 22 (?)
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.** Chamber of Commerce	846	W. J. Bertush	Potatoes Pears Peaches* Apples	Aug. 7 Aug. 15 Aug. 24 Sept. 20	Nov. 1 Sept. 29 Sept. 19* Nov. 1
ROCKY FORD, COLO. Marwell Block	821	R. H. Lamb	Cants.	Aug. 31	Sept. 25
ROCHESTER, N.Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears Peaches Apples Potatoes Cabbage	Sept. 5 Sept. 5 Sept. 12 Sept. 12 Oct. 1	Oct. 15 Oct. 10 Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 15
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.** B.H. State Bank Bldg.	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Peaches Grapes Apples Potatoes Onions	Sept. 6 Aug. 27 Aug. 27 Sept. 20 Sept. 20	Sept. 25 Oct. 15 Oct. 15 Oct. 15 Dec. 1
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 17	Mar. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
MARTINSBURG, W. VA.	935	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 21	Nov. 1
GRAND FORKS, N. D.	843	J. W. Park	Potatoes	Sept. 20	Mar. 1

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

IDAHO FALLS, IDA.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.**	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples Onions	Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Oct. 18	Apr. 30 Nov. 15 Nov. 15

\*Reports discontinued.

\*\*State Dept. cooperating.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE.
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1b. ADVISE WASHINGTON WHEN BULLETINS START AND STOP.

All field stations issuing mimeographed reports on more than one product should keep the Washington office fully advised as to date on which each bulletin is started and when it is discontinued. The receipt of f.o.b. reports in Washington can not always be taken as an indication that mimeographed reports are being issued at the field station. At the end of your f.o.b. report, you can add the information: "Cabbage bulletins started today" or "Grape bulletins discontinued today."

Sacramento )

Grand Junction )

Rochester )

Benton Harbor )

) These offices should examine the field station list in this D.L. and advise promptly of errors in dates.

All other stations also should inspect the list and advise of necessary changes in date of opening or in proposed date of closing; these dates refer to the mimeographed bulletins and not to the f.o.b. reports.

2b. SUBMIT INFORMATION AS TO LOCAL TRADE ORGANIZATIONS.

Market station men are requested to report to the Washington office the correspondence address of the local Chamber of Commerce, Produce Exchange, or similar organizations which include produce dealers, and to mention the activities of the organization in connection with agricultural products. Our object is to revise and complete a list for the use of Bureau workers. These letters should be marked: "Attention of Mr. Fiske."

3b. ANNOUNCE REOPENING OF INSPECTION OFFICES.

The last few days of September and the early part of October, all mimeographed reports, in those sections where the announcement will be of interest, should carry a statement to the effect that the Fort Worth and Houston offices of the Inspection Service on Fruits and Vegetables in Texas have been reopened. Applications for Fort Worth inspections can be addressed to M. C. Gregory, 1915 F. & M. Bank Bldg. Applications for inspections at Houston should be sent to H. T. Longino, 406 Southern Pacific Bldg.

4b. ERROR IN FARMERS' BULLETIN NO. 1316.

Farmers' Bulletin No. 1316, "Marketing the Early-Potato Crop," was recently distributed, and H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, writes of a rather serious error which he discovered in the bulletin. Mr. Harris' letter follows:

"I have just been reading Farmers' Bulletin No. 1316 and notice that in Table 1, page 4, Burbanks are given as the principal variety of potatoes for the Los Angeles district. The principal variety grown in this district is the White Rose, - British Queen being second in importance. Very few or no Burbanks are grown. In the Stockton district, of course, the Burbank is the leading variety."

It is regretted that this mistake occurred. All employees having copies of this bulletin can make the necessary correction on page 4.



5b. ADDITIONAL FIELD STATION SUMMARIES.

This week, the following additional summaries of field deals have been released:

Northwestern Arkansas and Southwestern Missouri Strawberry Deal, Season 1923, - by W. J. Bertush.

Western New York Onion Deal, Season 1922-23, - by C.L. Brown.

6b. MARKET REPORTS ISSUED AT CALIFORNIA STATE FAIR.

During the first week of September, the work of our Sacramento office was handled in a special booth at the State Fair grounds, as an advertisement to all who visited the annual Fair. In a recent letter, C. E. Schultz, in charge of the fruit reports, tells of the results of this experiment:

"Last Monday (Sept. 10) the office was moved back into Room 27 Mull Building, and business as usual was resumed. We are all glad to get back, as the Fair grounds are a considerable distance out and it was sometimes difficult to keep up with our time schedule in getting reports out promptly. It seemed that wire trouble on the leased wire was greater than usual during the Fair week, and that also was a considerable handicap.

"However, it is felt that our time and trouble was well spent, for many interested in market reports were met and learned of our service. Around 200 names were added to our mailing list during the time we were at the Fair and, in addition, requests for about 100 livestock and dairy reports were forwarded to the San Francisco offices. It is estimated that between 75,000 and 100,000 people passed our booth during the Fair.

"Mr. Hecke, Director of the State Department of Agriculture, expressed himself as very pleased with our exhibit.

"From 100 to 150 reports were passed out each day, including those to the men in charge of the various fruit and county exhibits.

"Aside from the expense of making the temporary drop from the leased wire, our total expenditures amounted to \$17.00 for three signs. One sign stated that bulletins would be mailed to interested parties on request; this was placed over a register. Another sign, placed next to the telegraph, stated that the wire was leased by the Government exclusively for market news, and the cities in direct communication were listed. The third sign was a large one painted on beaverboard; on one side MARKET NEWS SERVICE appeared in large letters, with pointers indicating that the office was below. On the reverse side, the following was given: MARKET NEWS SERVICE - UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE IN COOPERATION WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. The various California offices of the Livestock, Dairy and Fruit projects were listed, with their addresses."

7b. ADDITION TO "PA-PE" (POTATOES) PAGE OF CODE.

On the "PA-PE" (Potatoes) page of the code add, under Varieties:

\*UF Russet Rural (Petoskey)

This symbol is added to take care of the potato grown so largely in Michigan and often called Petoskey. Prof. Wm. Stuart, potato expert of the Bureau of Plant Industry, requests that we endeavor to standardize on the name Russet Rural, but if "Petoskey" is used entirely on your market to describe this variety, that name can be used in your bulletins.

Mr. Shoemaker, in charge of the...

8b. GOOD APPLE PROSPECTS IN STATE OF WASHINGTON.

G. E. Prince, of the Spokane office, made his first trip into the apple-producing districts of Washington about two weeks ago. He had visited only the Wenatchee section, when he wrote this letter of September 10:

"The prospects are good for a bumper crop of apples in the Wenatchee district. Movement for the season has been estimated at 17,900 cars, and the increase is attributed to a heavier crop on the old trees rather than to new bearing trees. The crop seems to be the cleanest since 1918, due largely to climatic conditions which have been unfavorable to the development of the codling moth. Of course, with the heavy loss from worms last season, more activity has been shown this season in spraying, and that, with the weather conditions, has resulted in a very clean crop.

"The shipping season is slightly earlier than that of last year, but the warm weather during the latter part of August retarded the coloring. Conditions during the first part of September were more favorable, and, with the cool nights, the apples are coloring up nicely. The size is good, and will average considerably larger than last season.

"The Winesap crop has increased and will probably make up 35% of the movement this season. The Delicious variety has also made a gain and now ranks ahead of the Jonathans. It is estimated that Delicious will make up 18-22% of the movement. Jonathans will rank third this season, instead of second, and will probably run 16-18% of the total. Jonathans have not proved as profitable as the other varieties and are being cut out wherever possible in thinning. This also holds true of the Spitzenburgs.

"The movement is expected to be active commencing around the 18th or 20th of this month, with a probable total of 2,000-2,500 cars for September, and the movement in October is expected to run 8,000 cars. The Great Northern Railway seems to have awakened to the fact that they have been more or less of a failure in the past, and indications at present are that they will be able to handle the crop."

H. J. CLAY,  
Investigator in Market Surveys



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK SEPT. 10-15 INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed, Posted, Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
New York- Misc. R	1:00	1:38	38	11	6015	353
Baltimore- Misc.	1:35	2:20	45	10	500	--
Atlanta- Misc.	12:57	1:44	47	11	2298	--
Washington- Misc.	12:42	1:39	57	10	2500	--
Boston- Misc.	1:50	3:00	70	16	3975	200
Philadelphia- Misc. R	1:20	2:38	78	24	19320	740
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Chicago- Misc.	12:02	12:22	20	14	7500	1900
Minneapolis- Misc. R	12:06	12:26	20	18	5755	132
St. Louis- Misc.	12:09	12:36	25	12	3970	175
Cincinnati- Misc.	12:54	1:21	27	10	4500	181
Pittsburgh- Misc.	11:34	12:01	27	11	2319	49
Kansas City- Misc.	11:56	12:43	47	11	3300	660
Ft. Worth- Misc.	1:25	2:13	48	13	1684	--
Denver- Misc.	1:55	4:03	118	11	4951	1940
Washington (Nat'l) BKN NPR Honey P'nuts Ship. Infm.				109	38994	1042
TOTAL	12:49#	1:37#	48#	291	107681	7372
" previous week	1:02#	1:44#	42#	262	98940	10484
<u>WESTERN OFFICES (Sept. 4-8)</u>						
San Francisco- Misc.	3:61	4:59	58	11	3213	--
Los Angeles- Misc. R. Ship.	4:08	6:18	70	14	8165	--
Portland- Misc.	4:54	7:47	113	14	6928	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				8382	3659333	192860

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK SEPT. 10-15 INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Benton Harbor- BKN		1:35	2:23	4010	648	62	--
Caldwell- R		2:50	4:41	10960	1845	3	--
Grand Junction- NPR		2:18	3:11	2160	231	10	--
Presque Isle- R		1:42	4:09	6800	1700	--	--
Rochester- BFLNPR		3:00	3:33	3415	566	10	--
Rocky Ford- G		2:27	3:36	2220	363	--	15
*Sacramento- KNP		4:41	6:00	6025	1205	18	--
TOTAL		2:39#	3:55#	35590	--	--	--
" previous week		2:23#	3:21#	23579	--	--	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				1,120,675			

# Average time

\* Reports for Sept. 4-8

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 4,973,368

INSPECTION SERVICE.

1c. REVISE YOUR ADDRESS LIST.

Please get out your copy of the August 15 list of Inspectors and their addresses, and see that the following changes are made:

<u>Name</u>	<u>To be cancelled under:</u>	<u>To be inserted under:</u>
J. H. Hoover	Chicago	*Watertown, S. Dak.
R. C. Lindstrom	Chicago	Pittsburgh
F. S. Zimmerman	Chicago	New York City
Paul A. Cauble	Denver	*Greeley, Colo.
Ober G. Strauss	Indianapolis	*Columbus
W. V. Stephens	New York	*Caribou, Maine
M. L. Henry	New York	Pittsburgh
H. T. Longino	New York	Houston
H. C. Miller	New York	*Dover, Del.
M. C. Gregory	Pittsburgh	Fort Worth
Neal D. Sanborn	Greeley, Colo.	Denver
Francis E. Hooper	---	Chicago

\*Temporary assignments for shipping-point inspection work.

S. H. Green is temporarily in Indianapolis.

See the next item (below) about shipping-point inspection.

2c. LIST OF SUPERVISORS OF INSPECTION WORK AT SHIPPING POINTS.

With this Division Letter, there is being distributed a tentative list of supervisors in charge of the work in leading producing sections. This is "tentative" in the sense that it is subject to correction. Keep the list for future reference. Additional copies may be had on request.

Please report to the Washington office promptly any corrections or additions that should be made to this new list, which is supplementary to the regular list of Inspectors in city markets.

3c. SUBMIT SPECIMENS OF MILDewed CALIFORNIA GRAPES.

Because of the interest taken in the mildew situation in California by both shippers and receivers, it is important that market Inspectors, wherever possible, submit samples of suspected grapes to either the Chicago office or Washington. This matter is strongly urged by Dr. D. H. Rose, of B.P.I.

4c. POSSIBILITY OF CITRUS INSPECTIONS IN FLORIDA.

Just as an indication of the wide-spread interest in inspection at shipping points, a letter recently was received from one of the sub-exchanges of the Florida Citrus Exchange, inquiring whether or not we could handle the inspection of 225,000 boxes (about 600 carloads) of oranges and grapefruit to be packed during the coming season in three packing houses. No decision has been reached as yet.

The letter enclosed a copy of the grading requirements of the Florida Citrus Exchange. These grades are printed on the next page of this D. L. and should be carefully preserved by Inspectors. (See next page.)



SEALDSWEET.

Four (4) grades, described as follows:

1.- FANCY.- Ripe fruit of good shape, full color, smooth, thin skin, heavy with juice (no dryness), free from disease, insect or fungus marks and showing no discoloration whatever.

2.- BRIGHT.- Ripe fruit of good shape, full color, smooth, thin skin, heavy with juice (no dryness), free from disease, insect or fungus marks and showing not more than 15% discoloration from thrips or rust mites.

3.- GOLDEN.- Ripe fruit of good shape, full color, smooth, thin skin, heavy with juice (no dryness), free from disease, insect or fungus marks and showing not more than 70% light discoloration from thrips or rust mites.

4.- RUSSET.- Ripe fruit of good shape, good color, smooth, thin skin, heavy with juice (no dryness); all remaining genuine russet fruit, with the exception of black, unsightly russets, or fruit badly affected by melanose, tear stain ammoniation or buckskin (silver-skin or sharkskin).

5.- NOTE 1.- No creased, sunburned or badly hailmarked fruit to be packed under Sealdsweet.

6.- NOTE 2.- Late Bloom grapefruit under Sealdsweet should be good shape, excluding all noney shaped fruit, and shall be mature.

"Ripe Fruit," as above used, means "according to Federal and State standards."

FLOREX.

Three (3) grades.

1.- BRIGHT.- Good clean fruit, showing not more than 15% discoloration and complying with the general description given above.

2.- GOLDEN.- Good clean fruit, showing not more than 70% discoloration and complying with the general description given above.

3.- RUSSET.- All remaining russets, excluding all culls and all fruit badly affected with scab, melanose, ammoniation, sharkskin or buckskin.

FRUIT PACKED UNDER THIS BRAND SHALL CONSIST OF ALL REMAINING GOOD QUALITY, MERCHANTABLE FRUIT NOT EQUAL TO THE SEALDSWEET GRADE AND WITH ALL UNMERCHANTABLE, SOFT, BADLY SCARRED AND BADLY MISSHAPEN FRUIT CULLED OUT.

All fruit under this brand shall possess good carrying qualities and show at least 60% good color, except that Parsons Brown may be shipped when they meet State and Federal Regulations. This brand must not be used as a dumping ground for fruit too badly infected with lemon scab, melanose, ammoniation, anthracnose, or other unsightly defects.

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5c. CALIFORNIA GRAPES AND NEVADA POTATOES.

Mr. Robb wrote the following important letter from Sacramento on the 14th of September. It should be carefully read by all Inspectors:

"I find the boys out here very busy with the grape inspection work. The prospects now are that there will be about 18,000 cars inspected on commercial requests and several thousand additional at the request of railroads. These railroad requests will cover low-grade stock, which they desire inspected because of their fear it will not carry properly.

"A number of the shipments of lug grapes will go out under the California Commercial grade. This grade, however, is very impracticable and is not going to be very much used. It is almost impossible in most sections to pack grapes under these specifications. You will notice that the law provides a 10 per cent tolerance for defective berries that 'not more than 5 per cent shall be dried or partially dried berries.' The way the law is written, it seems that the raisined berries are considered of more importance than crushed, moldy or decayed stock.

"I do not believe that there will be any receiving-point inspections requested on grade, but in case such should be requested our Inspectors may understand that the cars are up to the requirements of California Commercial grade if the boxes are so stamped. Any lots which do not meet the requirements cannot be stamped. It is not necessary to ship under this grade and most cars, therefore, will get out without any grade certification or any markings on the lugs.

"The policy to be followed in writing certificates is to group together such serious defects as 'crushed,' 'moldy berries' and 'red berry.' 'Red berry' is particularly serious, because the berries crush so early that they nearly always are moldy when they reach the markets.

"Mildew will be mentioned by itself and will always be mentioned from the standpoint of the percentage of bunches affected (by weight), rather than the individual berries. If the mildew affects stems only it will be mentioned in connection with the description of the stems and not of the berries."

"Mr. S.S. Rogers, Assistant to Mr. Allewelt, will spend about four days beginning September 24 in Nevada, instructing the inspectors at Reno on the grading and certification of potatoes. After he leaves, the work will be handled by Mr. Hicks, a Wisconsin potato man, who is being employed by the State of Nevada to follow up this work. He is a very capable man and I anticipate no trouble in putting over the deal."

NOTE:

At this time of the year, when shipping-point inspection work is at its height, the Division Letter will carry numerous letters of interest from Supervising Inspectors. These are of real importance to market inspectors, as well as supervisors, because they tell of conditions which any inspector is likely to meet in his daily work. They keep market men in touch with the situation at country loading points. Read ALL of the D.L.



6c. INSPECTION OF OHIO PEACHES, APPLES AND ONIONS.

While still at Port Clinton, Ohio, Mr. Conklin wrote the following letter under date of September 13:

"We are inspecting the peaches packed by the regular Catawba Island Fruit Growers Cooperative Association and by what is known as the 'Danbury Unit' of that organization. Both houses are at Gypsum, and we have a good State-Federal inspector who spends his entire time at each house. These men are college graduates and good fruit men. We will inspect 100 to 150 cars, mostly Elbertas, with a few Salways and Lemon Frees. The Elbertas are about half moved and will be nearly all shipped by the last of next week (Sept. 22).

"All inspected stock is run over Burke Graders, accurately sized and generally well graded. At one house, all stock is ring-faced and marked 'Buckeye Brand.' At the other one, it is mostly a jumble pack and not branded, but both houses mark packages 'U.S. No. 1 grade' and also use Ohio size designations. These are as follows: 'Fancy, or AAA,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches and up,' 'AA,  $2-2\frac{1}{4}$  inches,' 'A,  $1\frac{3}{4}-2$  inches,' 'B,  $1\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{3}{4}$  inches.' Both the letters and the size ranges are marked on all baskets.

"A letter from Mr. Faxon today states that there are something over a hundred cars of apples in Southern Ohio, for which inspection has been requested. He also says that a shipper at McGuffy has asked for inspection on onions, and possibly some of the large operators there will want it."

7c. WISCONSIN CABBAGE SHOWS GOOD QUALITY.

Writing from Chicago on September 13, Supervising Inspector F. J. Baehler gave the following information concerning the inspection of Wisconsin cabbage:

"I have just returned from the Racine and Corliss cabbage district, and am pleased to report that the work is progressing satisfactorily. During the last few days, loading was held up to a great extent on account of rains, but we are now inspecting ten to fifteen cars per day. \*\*\* The cabbage in that district is of exceptionally good quality this season, and all inspections are made on the basis of the U. S. grades.

"During the fore part of the week, shipments of Hollander stock commenced, which is unusually early for this vicinity. Up to date, all shipments have been in the best of condition and I have noticed very little decay in the fields. The loaders for the most part are very particular, and cars which are destined for long distances are carefully loaded, usually with the crowns up, and any decayed or noticeably defective heads are thrown aside at the time of loading.

"I expect to be in southern Illinois next week. The fruit districts there are widely scattered, and I find that a considerable amount of stock will be shipped out ungraded."

8c. HIGH PERCENTAGE OF INSPECTIONS IN IDAHO.

In a letter of September 16, from Boise, Idaho, the following report was made by L.G. Schultz, Supervising Inspector:

"The work here is progressing very nicely. The early potato movement is drawing to a close; shipments have reached approximately 2,300 to date. There are possibly 500 cars remaining in the district which should move out prior to January 1st. We will be able to report approximately 99% inspection on the total movement of the early crop of potatoes, which is quite a record for a deal of this size.

"The prune movement which started last week has not yet reached any great proportions and, due to an over-supply in the Chicago Market, packing has been discontinued until next Thursday (15th). There will be approximately 2,000 cars to move out by the first of October and we will have our hands full, as we expect to get approximately 100% inspection on this commodity.

"The peach movement from the early districts, including Emmett, is about over but are just starting in the Twin Falls section. I expect to be in the field the greater part of this week instructing the new men on the inspection of prunes. Our lettuce season should start in volume by October 1st."

9c. POTATO INSPECTIONS IN SOUTH DAKOTA.

J.H. Hoover, in a letter of September 17 from Watertown, S. Dak., advises as follows:

"The potato deal in this State is rather slow in getting started on account of the poor market conditions which prevail. Most of the growers were ready to start digging two weeks ago, but the market dropped and the weather became warm, so they left their potato digging and threshed their grain. The threshing is practically done now and the growers had planned to dig this morning but were held up on account of rain which fell all day yesterday and last night. It seems to be clearing now, but digging will not be heavy for two or three days.

"Much interest is being shown in the service and we will have all we can do just as soon as the deal gets under way. I have four inspectors who have completed their training, and it is probable that I will not employ any more than this number on account of limited funds allowed by the State."

ROBERT BIER,  
Supervising Inspector.



## INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF AUGUST, 1923

MARKETS	Total Fruits C/L & L.C.L.	Total Vege- tables C/L & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total same Month 1922	Inspec- tions for car- riers	Declin- ed for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certifi- cate Copy Fees
Atlanta	13	53	66	33	11	2	\$236	\$15.00	\$13
Baltimore	5	19	24	36	2	0	96	0	0
Boston	16	77	93	80	16	7	380	2.50	5
Buffalo	15	19	34	36	0	1	132	2.50	0
Chicago	75	45	120	239	8	0	464	10.00	23
Cincinnati	19	9	28	29	1	0	112	0	1
Cleveland	29	74	103	145	18	2	404	2.50	24
Columbus	19	32	51	30	35	1	204	0	0
Denver	4	3	7	5	0	0	36	0	0
Detroit	24	31	55	95	15	0	220	0	4
Harrisburg	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Indianapolis	10	12	22	35	0	0	76	7.50	3
Kansas City	19	15	34	34	4	0	136	0	4
Memphis	8	21	29	29	10	0	116	0	13
Milwaukee	15	10	25	62	0	0	80	5.00	1
Minneapolis	11	11	22	52	0	0	84	2.50	1
New Haven	10	6	16	-	0	1	52	7.50	1
New Orleans	31	77	108	117	67	0	392	25.00	25
New York	160	42	202	217	91	411	760	30.00	12
Norfolk	9	9	18	18	7	0	72	0	2
Omaha	16	4	20	12	3	1	80	0	1
Philadelphia	14	18	32	82	6	0	116	7.50	4
Pittsburgh	48	95	143	132	53	3	536	20.00	6
Portland	2	3	5	-	0	0	16	2.50	1
St. Louis	59	37	96	125	58	0	376	10.00	23
Washington	8	10	18	41	9	0	60	7.50	7
Wilkes Barre	7	10	17	11	4	0	68	2.50	4
TOTAL	646	742	1388	1696	418	429	\$5,304	\$160.00	\$178

## RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections ....	646	Inspection for Carriers..	418
TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections..	742	Declined for lack of time..	429
Grand Total C/L and L.C.L. Inspections..	1388	Total Fees Assessed	\$5,657*

\* The Total Fees Assessed include \$15 for inspection of 2 mixed cars.

## INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING AUGUST, 1923.

Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps	Total Number of Inspection	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS										
		Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL Quantity INSPECTED		Cuts made to comply with spec- ifications		Items billed short- weight		
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	282	14	199461	6148	18023	66	217484	6214	455	0	0	0
NEW YORK	667	42	336451	187507	4353	6961	340804	194468	1287	15	0	0
NORFOLK	***		218645	0	400	0	219045	0	0	0	0	0
PHILADELPHIA	371	36	239146	22784	21294	612	260440	23396	1511	215	0	0
SAN DIEGO	***	70	382572	55061	2935	170	385507	55231	377	34	92	0
SAN FRANCISCO	72	0	336972	0	8460	0	345432	0	0	0	0	0
SAN PEDRO	***	0	37615	0	1512	0	39127	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	1392	162	1750862	271500	56977	7809	1807839	279309	3630	264	92	0

\*\*\* No record of number of inspections.

In addition to the above, the Boston office inspected 3 cars of potatoes which were rejected on track.

The New York office also inspected 176,898 pounds of fruits and 403,923 pounds of vegetables, with rejections of 6,754 pounds, for the United States Lines; and 27,432 pounds of fruits and 70,178 pounds of vegetables, with 1,251 pounds rejected, for the Munson Line.

The Norfolk office made 32 inspections for the Laid-up Fleet of the U. S. Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation, amounting to 84,345 pounds of fruits and vegetables passed, and 240 pounds cut to meet specifications.

The San Pedro office inspected, in addition to the above, 3,570 pounds of bread and 1,021 pounds of butter.



OFFICE NOTES:

Stuart D. Main, of New Jersey, has been appointed as a Junior Marketing Specialist and reported a few days ago for temporary duty in the Washington office of the News Service. Mr. Main is a graduate of the South Orange (N.J.) High School and the Massachusetts Agricultural College, from which latter institution he received the B.S. degree. During the summer of 1921, he was employed as a farm accountant and time-keeper at Morristown, N.J., and during the 1922 potato shipping season in that State served as a cooperative inspector under the direction of this Bureau and the New Jersey Dept. of Agriculture.

F. J. Bachler, who has been training inspectors at shipping points in Wisconsin, recently went to southern Illinois to look after the fruit inspection work in that section. He expects to return to Wisconsin at an early date.

Director B. M. Davison, of the Illinois Dept. of Agriculture, reports that a booth, devoted to the cooperative inspection service, is a feature of the State Fair at Springfield this week. Mr. Bachler, Supervising Inspector, intends to spend at least one day at the Fair, in connection with this service.

Onion inspections have become so heavy at shipping points in Indiana that S. H. Fountain has been detailed from the Chicago office to assist Inspectors Behnke and Dickerson on this job. His headquarters, also, will be at Warsaw, Indiana.

During the absence of F. M. Lyle on vacation, W. H. Steinbauer, of the New York staff, is handling inspections in New Haven and vicinity.

F. E. Kast is expected to return to duty in the New York office of the Inspection Service today, following his honeymoon trip.

The itinerary of C. W. Hauck is as follows: Sept. 16 - 19, Rochester, N.Y.; 20 - 22, c/o Joseph Campbell Co., Camden, N.J.; 23 - 25, Salem, N.J.; 26 - 27 Bridgeville, Del. He probably will be back in Washington by Sept. 30. Mr. Hauck is securing much valuable information in connection with the proposed grades for canning-house tomatoes.

A wire from Mr. Samson states that he will leave Aroostook County, Maine, tonight for Boston, where he will stop off for a short period to confer with members of our staff. He is due in Washington next Monday. The purpose of his trip to Maine was to ascertain definitely the volume of potatoes which will be offered for inspection by the Maine Potato Growers' Exchange and other shippers in that district, and to complete final arrangements for this work.

J. D. Snow, of the Denver office of the Market News Service, was scheduled to give addresses this week before members of the marketing classes of Denver University. He expected to talk on the general subject of marketing and particularly on the News Service of this Bureau.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

F. M. Patton, who returned from his western trip last Saturday, met with much success in his efforts to consolidate daily telegraphic reports of shipments from the respective railroads.

Apple inspections in Delaware have not been very heavy, but H. C. Miller, Supervising Inspector at Dover, states that the work probably will increase rapidly next week. He is meeting with some difficulty over the problem of identifying separate lots of inspected apples after they have been placed in cold storage. Most of the stock at present is moving into storage.

H. T. Longino stopped at the Washington office yesterday, en route from New York to Houston, Texas. He will take a week's leave at Pittsburgh, and will reopen the Houston office of the Inspection Service about October 1.

The Federal supervisor of cooperative inspection work at shipping points in Ohio will be Ober G. Strauss, of the Indianapolis office. He can be reached in care of Richard Faxon, Chief of the Division of Plant Industry, State Dept. of Agriculture, Columbus, during the next few weeks. S. W. Green, of the Cleveland office, has been sent to Indianapolis, as temporarily in charge of the work in that city.

Mr. Sherman will leave Washington this Friday afternoon on a trip to Chicago and intermediate points. At Chicago, he will confer with Regional Supervisor R. C. Butner, and will become acquainted with members of the latest inspection training-class. Mr. Sherman expects to interview a Civil Service eligible at Mt. Vernon, Ill., and will also stop at Indianapolis and Columbus in connection with the transfer of Mr. Strauss to shipping-point work in Ohio.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., can be addressed in care of C. L. Brown, 39 Federal Building, Rochester, N.Y., during the period that he is supervising shipping-point inspections in western New York. He arrived in Rochester last Monday.

A cooperative market report on grapes will be started next week in the Buffalo office of the New York Dept. of Farms and Markets. These bulletins will be issued under the direction of Mark F. O'Donnell, of the State staff, at 222 Ellicott Square Bldg., Buffalo. Reporters in New York, Pennsylvania and Michigan cooperate in furnishing the f.o.b. information for the bulletin, and the heading of the reports gives credit to all three States.

Has your office received copies of Farmers' Bulletin No. 1317 on "Marketing Main-Crop Potatoes"? This is a new, companion bulletin to No. 1316 (on early potatoes), and the co-authors are Mr. Sherman, Mr. Fiske and Mr. O. D. Miller. It deserves wide distribution in all late potato sections.

Walter Kingsbury, of the San Diego office, recently published in a local newspaper an excellent article on "Marketing Farm Produce in San Diego."



OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Having substituted for W. E. Harrison in Baltimore, V.D. Callanan is expected to return to the Washington office next Monday. Mr. Callanan's headquarters probably will be Washington for some time to come.

F. H. Scruggs spent part of Tuesday in the Washington office, en route from St. Louis to Martinsburg, W. Va. He has now begun the publishing of daily apple market reports at Martinsburg.

A new clerk-typist for Mr. Clay's section is Brady S. Bradenburg, who will arrive early next week from Minnesota. He succeeds Walter Murphy, recently resigned.

It should be remembered that the potato market reports, usually issued at the Monte Vista and Greeley field stations during the fall and winter months, will be distributed this season from our Denver office. Mr. Snow also has been issuing a special lettuce report for Colorado growers and shippers.

H. V. DeMott, auditor for the Domestic Wool Section, is at Buckhannon, W. Va., this week, examining the records of wool dealers who made excess profits on the 1918 clip. He may stop at Wheeling to secure data from freight agents who handled consignments of wool in that territory.

Mrs. F. M. Jenkins, has been detailed by the Bureau of Plant Industry, to handle the card-record work formerly done by Miss Frances Myers in our Inspection office; she will assist in making abstracts of the inspection certificates. Miss Alice J. Keefe, of the clerical pool, is handling Miss Lottie Sommers' work in Mrs. Aylor's section, while Miss Sommers is on leave. The new messenger, succeeding James Pruett in the Washington office, is Paul Friedman, formerly of the Grain Division.

R. C. Butner, of the Chicago office, planned to spend this Thursday at Warsaw, Ind., in conference with those handling the shipping-point inspection of onions and with shippers who are using this service. Next week, he will familiarize himself with the potato inspection service in Nebraska by visiting with V.V. Westgate, Supervising Inspector.

During the next month or two, a great deal of Mr. Prince's time will be spent in visiting apple shippers in the various producing sections of the Pacific Northwest, checking up the f.o.b. reports rendered the Spokane office. While he is absent from Spokane, Mrs. L. B. Gerry, his assistant, will handle the issuance of market reports and other work in the office. An interesting letter from Mr. Prince appears on another page of this D.L.

On the address list of Inspectors, the residence address and phone number of H. A. Arenz, at Milwaukee, should be changed to: 733 Cramer St.; phone Lakeside 1938.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

The following changes should be made under Colorado offices on the August 15 list of Inspectors:

Change the residence address and phone number of E. F. McKune, at Denver, to 1012 Steele St.; phone Franklin 1006-R.

Also under Denver, cancel the name and address of Paul A. Cauble and substitute Neal D. Sanborn.

Under Greeley, Colo., cancel Neal D. Sanborn and insert Paul A. Cauble.

With this issue of the Division Letter, the editor is again on the job. During three weeks' vacation, Mr. Froehlich got out of touch with the work, but he wishes to remind all men at field stations and men in charge of city offices (both Market News and Inspection) that he will be very glad for a continuation of items for the D.L. and special articles for publication in Weather, Crops and Markets. The material which you send in is perhaps the most interesting and valuable part of these publications, from the standpoint of fruit and vegetables. Your past cooperation is greatly appreciated and your further assistance in this work is earnestly solicited. Constantly be on the alert for timely and newsy items, new developments in your work, important happenings in your market or your producing section, and send reports to the Washington office.

Having visited Madison, Wis., yesterday, H. A. Spilman's itinerary calls for stops at Sheboygan today and Friday and at Green Bay Saturday to Monday. His trip is in the interest of the enforcement of the Standard Container Act.

Mr. Boree is on a week's leave at his home in Virginia. During his absence, Mr. Clay is handling much of Mr. Boree's work. G. B. Fiske, also, is absent this week on vacation.

Many employees of the F. & V. Division in a travel status or temporarily assigned to field work may occasionally miss a copy of the weekly DIVISION LETTER, because of their frequent moves.

If you have not received your copy of this paper regularly during the past few weeks, you should immediately request from Washington the missing issues.

When you do not receive your D.L. regularly each week, advise the Washington office unless the date of issue happens to be a holiday. By missing even one issue of this paper, you may be depriving yourself of important information.



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 38

September 27, 1923.  
(Contents Confidential)

1a. COVENT GARDEN MARKET IN LONDON.

A clipping from the September 7 issue of the London "Daily Telegraph" describes market conditions at Covent Garden. This article was received from Agricultural Commissioner Edward A. Foley:-

Though arrivals at Covent Garden show a considerable decline, prices have not advanced to the extent that might have been anticipated. There is, however, no very keen demand. It is suggested that this is probably to a certain extent due to the fact that the end of August coincides with the closing of the holiday period, when there is not too much spare money about. Large cooking apples are not very plentiful, but there is a good supply of small cheap apples, and housewives who are in the habit of making apple jelly have the opportunity of securing suitable fruit on most advantageous terms. Early apples, plums, and peaches are just commencing to reach the market from California and other parts of the American Pacific coast. There are a good many apples and plums and some pears arriving from Italy, in addition to considerable quantities of plums from Central Europe. The demand for oranges from South Africa is not keen, and Sicilian and Spanish lemons are selling slowly. Grapefruit from South Africa and Cuba is not in great request.

The inquiry for Spanish melons has been affected by the cooler weather, the arrivals being, in fact, in excess of the demand. There are plenty of blackberries. The first pomegranates - of Spanish origin - of the season have made their appearance. The majority of nectarines now being marketed are very small, and in many instances devoid of colour. The volume of tomatoes forwarded from Holland shows a considerable reduction, cucumbers, lettuce, and small quantities of grapes forming the chief items of the balance of Dutch exports. There is a considerable shortage of English tomatoes. A normal supply of bananas is being maintained. Cobnuts are small and show a reduction in price. In the vegetable section supplies are short and values have advanced. Only very small quantities of peas are available, and runner beans and marrows are dearer. Yorkshire is sending large consignments of cabbage to the markets, notwithstanding the heavy transport charges. There are plenty of carrots, and beetroot is in fair supply; but there are not many turnips. Onions are not so plentiful as last year, when enormous quantities came from Holland and they have accordingly advanced in value. Potatoes, though quite up to the average in quality, are not likely to be as plentiful as last year, when the crop was anything but a profitable one for farmers.

There is likely to be a shortage of pears on the market in the near future. The French crop will not be particularly productive, and the English crop is described as "a failure." "Williams" will soon be over. In the middle of the month "Chasselas" and black grapes will be coming from France, and a plentiful supply of walnuts may be anticipated from that quarter. Many varieties of English plums, including the popular Victoria, are at their best.

## TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
SACRAMENTO, Calif.** Room 27, Mull Bldg.	918	C. E. Schultz	Pears Peaches Pl.&Pr.* Grapes	July 17 July 17 July 17 Aug. 6	Oct. 1 Oct. 1 Aug. 4* Nov. 1
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.** Chamber of Commerce	846	W. J. Bertush	Potatoes Pears Peaches* Apples	Aug. 7 Aug. 15 Aug. 24 Sept. 20	Nov. 1 Sept. 29 Sept. 19* Nov. 1
ROCHESTER, N.Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears Peaches Apples Potatoes Cabbage	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Oct. 1	Oct. 15 Oct. 10 Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 15
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.** B.H. State Bank Bldg.	838	R.H. Shoemaker	Peaches* Grapes Apples Potatoes Onions	Sept. 6 Aug. 27 Aug. 27 Sept. 20 Sept. 20	Sept. 25* Oct. 15 Oct. 15 Oct. 15 Dec. 1
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 17	Mar. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
MARTINSBURG, W. VA. Room 18, Court House	835	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 21	Nov. 1
GRAND FORKS, N. D&K. 206 Federal Bldg.	843	J. W. Park	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Mar. 1
IDAHO FALLS, IDA.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30

The following station probably will open on date indicated:

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.**	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples Onions	Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Oct. 18	Apr. 30 Nov. 15 Nov. 15
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The following stations closed on dates indicated:

CALDWELL, IDA. Commercial Club	928	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Aug. 3	Closed 9/22
ROCKY FORD, COLO. Maxwell Block	321	R. H. Lamb	Cants.	Aug. 31	Sept. 27

\*Reports discontinued. \*\* State Dept. cooperating.



MARKET NEWS SERVICE.1b. QUOTE MICHIGAN POTATOES BY VARIETIES, WHEN POSSIBLE.

Part of Par. 7b in last week's Division Letter, referring to Michigan potatoes, did not print when the stencil was mimeographed. Below

\*UF Russet Rural (Petoskey)

should have appeared

(Footnote for code page): Use "Petoskey" only if readers would not understand Russet Rural."

Further, Mr. Shoemaker, in charge of the Benton Harbor office, urges that market reporters be particular to quote Michigan potatoes as either Rurals, Russet Rurals or Cobblers, because the practice of quoting Russet Rurals (especially) as Round Whites is objected to by certain authorities in the State. Reporters should follow this request so far as possible. If Michigan potatoes are sold simply as Michigan stock or Michigan Round Whites and the variety is a matter of uncertainty, it will of course not be feasible to give the exact varietal name.

2b. CONDITIONS IN WISCONSIN POTATO DISTRICTS.

After visiting the potato sections around Sturgeons Bay, Antigo, Rhineland, Cameron and Stevens Point, Wisconsin, Mr. Mosier opened the field station at Waupaca and is now issuing daily reports on potatoes. In a letter of September 20, he tells of general conditions in that State:-

"Taken as a whole, the growers and dealers are rather optimistic over the prospects for the coming season. Things looked unusually bright, until the heavy frost of last week killed all the vines and of course cut the yield to some extent. As in all similar cases, a great wail went up to the effect the the crop was ruined, but the damage in all probability was over-estimated and the best informed persons place the reduction at from 15% to 20% of the yield for the State. Personally I think the former figure to be more nearly correct. The northern sections were practically uninjured, as the crop was matured and in good condition for a frost, but the central and southern sections were cut short by about two weeks of growth. Nevertheless, I would not place the loss for the State at more than about 15% of the total production for the season.

"The stock being dug seems to be of very good quality. The tubers are reasonably free from scab and second growth, and the shipments from the northern sections should practically all grade U.S. NO. 1, while those from the middle and southern portions of the State may have an appreciable amount of No. 2's among them, due to the shortening of the growing season.

"Most of the stock shipped to date has come from the northern sections, as very few warehouses are in operation in other parts of the State. The market has been good, until the break of the present week. At the present writing, bulk Round Whites are selling for \$1.00 per cwt. to the farmer, while one sale of 10,000 bushels of Triumph seed for January delivery was reported at \$1.26 per bushel. The growers evidently remember the disastrous years just past and are willing to haul if the price is at all reasonable."

B. C. BOREE,

Investigator in Market Surveys

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK SEPT. 17-22 INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Report Mailed Posted Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
New York - Misc. R	1:13	1:48	35	11	6,015	353
Washington- Misc.	12:58	1:40	42	10	2,535	--
Philadelphia- Misc. R	2:03	2:49	46	21	17,978	520
Baltimore - Misc.	1:08	2:03	55	10	550	--
Boston - Misc. M	1:32	2:29	57	15	3,865	200
Atlanta - Misc. Q	12:13	1:19	66	16	5,156	--
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Kansas City- Misc. Hon.	12:10	12:28	18	10	5,100	125
Chicago - Misc.	12:08	12:29	21	15	7,500	2,000
Minneapolis - Misc. R	12:03	12:24	21	18	5,910	132
St. Louis - Misc. Q	12:11	12:32	21	12	5,900	175
Pittsburgh - Misc.	11:39	12:03	24	10	2,358	49
Cincinnati - Misc.	12:39	1:06	33	10	4,497	181
Fort Worth - Misc.	1:45	2:22	37	13	1,600	276
Denver - Misc. R	2:15	3:24	69	10	7,118	--
Washington (Nat'l) BGKMNPR Ship. Inf., P'nuts				109	36,331	1,105
TOTAL	12:51#	1:30#	39#	290	112,413	5,116
" previous week	12:49#	1:37#	48#	291	107,681	7,372
<u>WESTERN OFFICES (Sept. 10-15)</u>						
San Francisco- Misc.	4:15	5:03	48	15	3,970	--
Los Angeles - Misc. R, Ship.	4:56	5:49	53	17	7,635	--
Portland - LM#5	5:05	6:50	105	18	8,400	1,005
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				8,722	3,792,251	198,981

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK SEPT. 17-22, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Benton Harbor - BKNMR	1:34	2:47	6,459	1,002	55	--
Caldwell - R	2:25	4:23	10,800	1,800	--	2
Grand Forks - R	1:34	2:07	118	30	--	--
Grand Junction- NPR	2:15	3:27	2,715	435	55	--
Martinsburg- B	3:20	4:35	751	357	--	--
Presque Isle - R	1:46	3:25	9,017	1,503	--	--
Rochester - BNPR Misc.	3:34	4:11	3,964	644	14	--
Rocky Ford - G	2:24	3:29	2,541	370	2	--
*Sacramento - KNP	4:16	5:03	6,815	1,136	--	6
Spokane - B	1:27	3:06	10,768	1,862	--	--
Waupaca - R	11:48	2:08	6,678	1,113	--	--
TOTAL	2:18#	3:31#	60,626			
" previous week	2:39#	3:55#	35,590			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			1,181,301			

# Average time. \* Reports for Sept. 10-15.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 5,172,533.



INSPECTION SERVICE.

1c. INSPECTIONS FOR CONDITION ONLY.

All Inspectors in receiving markets are again reminded to restrict inspections to condition only, on all cars which have been inspected at shipping point, unless buyer requests reinspection to overrule the shipping-point certificate. One of the leading fruit companies, shipping quantities of grapes from California, has complained that this rule is not being followed by some of our market Inspectors.

2c. FEDERAL GRADES ADOPTED IN OHIO.

Richard Faxon, Chief of the Ohio Division of Plant Industry, recently advised of the adoption, by the State Department of Agriculture, of the Federal grades for 4 products. His letter follows:

"We have adopted as official grades for Ohio, effective September 18, the U. S. grades for apples, peaches, onions and potatoes.

"We expect to write at least 100 shipping-point certificates for apples in Gallia and Lawrence counties and 100 or more for onions at Lockwood (Trumbull County) and McGuffey (Hardin County). The onion certificates were requested by Mr. Ralph Jordan, of Cleveland, who will let us know as soon as shipments are ready for inspection.

"Expect the Rome Beauty apple season to start Monday, September 24."

3c. PECULIAR CONDITIONS FOUND IN VIRGINIA APPLES.

Writing under date of September 25, F. Earl Parsons tells of a peculiar condition found in apples being inspected at shipping points in Augusta County, Virginia:-

"I feel that it would be desirable to advise all of our Inspectors relative to a condition which is prevalent in many shipments of Ben Davis, Gano, and Black Ben Davis apples in Virginia. The injury is an internal browning and appearance is the result of drought early in the season. Some consider that the dry weather and consequent rapid evaporation from the outer cells of the apples caused a concentration of the chemicals in the inner cells of the fruit, which in some instances was sufficient to kill the cell tissues. Many of the apples have a different injury, so no indication of it is external, but most of such apples present a rough appearance particularly on the blossom half of the fruit. As you know, this roughening is not characteristic of the Ben Davis group, for ordinarily well-grown specimens are extremely smooth.

"A great many orchardists have packed a goodly percentage of this class of material in their export shipments. In some instances the entire apple is brown, but in most instances it extends to special vascular tissues or particular portions of the fruit and often is found near the stem end, though the external indications of it are more noticeable at the calyx end."

4c. PEACH GRADES ADOPTED IN MICHIGAN; PERHAPS POTATO GRADES, ALSO.

A letter from W. F. Hartman, Director of the Michigan Bureau of Foods and Standards, advises that, on September 12, the U. S. grades for peaches were promulgated as the State standard, making it mandatory that all Michigan peaches be shipped under those grades in the future. His letter closes with this statement: "In all likelihood, within the next 10 days, we shall take similar action with reference to potatoes."



5e. APPLE INSPECTION WORK IN WEST VIRGINIA.

In a letter of September 22; the following important information is given by Supervising Inspector J. J. Gardner, whose headquarters are at Martinsburg, W. Va.:-

"I have just returned from Keyser, after placing one of our men there, and I believe I can now give you a little more definite information regarding the extent of the apple inspection service and the condition of the crop.

"Work at Keyser is being carried on at a Community Packing House and the output handled by the American Fruit Growers. Some of it is being labeled 'Blue Goose,' the remainder stamped 'Tip Top Brand.' The fruit in this section is in good shape and will be of good quality, but the method of handling is very rough. Yesterday, while I was at a packing plant, a load was brought in on the truck, that I was informed had been hauled a distance of 26 miles. This stock was in open barrels and showed a very large percentage of bruising, as would be expected.

"At Inwood the crop is clean, but is not finished as smoothly as in the section around Keyser. I have noticed considerable fruit-spot on the Jonathans, particularly from the low lands in the vicinity of both Inwood and Charles Town. These, I believe, are generally very well-colored and it is a little difficult to see the defect and remove such apples as they go from the grader.

"Shepherdstown will not start packing before the last of the month. This plant and the one at Inwood are operated under the direction of the Extension Department of the State University; the other two are commercial plants. We have made but few inspections so far, but expect that next week we can handle considerable more work. So far, our work has been largely educational. I have observed a number of farmers' packs, most of which have been stamped 'A Grade,' and as a general thing the grading has been very poor. I doubt if any of the lots that I have looked at would meet the 'A' grade requirements that I am familiar with.

"The following brands will be largely inspected by us: 'Johnny Appleseed' Brand, out of Inwood and Keyser; 'Worthmore' Brand, out of Ransom in the vicinity of Charles Town; and the 'Tip Top' and 'Blue Goose' from Keyser. I do not believe that Romney or Kearneysville will use the service this year. We probably will inspect 700 to 1,000 carloads of apples."

6c. ONION INSPECTIONS IN INDIANA.

Following his visit to Warsaw, Ind., last Thursday, Mr. Putner advises that the territory for onion inspections in that State has been divided into three districts, with Mr. Behrke in charge at Warsaw, Mr. Dickerson at Knox, and Mr. Fountain at Auburn. Mr. Putner's letter of September 21 closes as follows:

"Although only about 500 cars of onions will be marketed during the months of September and October, it is planned to have the remainder (about 200 cars) inspected as they go into storage, just the same as cars going out on orders. It rained yesterday and I did not have an opportunity to see any of the onions, but was informed by Mr. Behrke that the quality is very good. The principal work of our Inspectors is to determine the size classification of the stock and, as the onions are well graded, I do not believe we will run much risk of having the shipping-point report reversed in the markets."



### 7c. OREGON STATE APPLE GRADES.

This year's grading rules for apples, as adopted by the Oregon State Board of Horticulture, are printed below. Inspectors should familiarize themselves with these specifications. It is reported that some shippers in Oregon will conform to more rigid regulations than those outlined in the grades, especially as to "C" grade pack. (These grading rules have been copied from a recent issue of The Packer.)-

#### Extra Fancy or No. 1.

Extra Fancy or No. 1 shall consist of apples of one variety which are mature, clean, well formed, free from decay, bruises, limb-rubs, spray-burn, sun-scald, hail marks, drouth spots, russeting, visible water core, broken skins and from other damage caused by disease, insects or mechanical means, except that russeting at the stem end characteristic of the variety shall be permitted. Each apple of this grade shall have the amount of color specified hereinafter for the variety.

#### Fancy or No. 2.

Fancy or No. 2 shall consist of apples of one variety which are mature, clean, fairly well formed, free from decay, bruises, spray-burn, visible water core, broken skins and other damage caused by disease, insects, or mechanical means, except that limb-rubs, sun-scald, hail marks, drouth spots and russeting, where the injury is slight; or two small healed worm stings on apples of red varieties showing Extra Fancy color or one small healed worm sting on apples of blushed, yellow or green varieties which otherwise meet the requirements of Extra Fancy grade and scab spots affecting an aggregate area of not more than one-fourth inch in diameter, shall be permitted in this grade; provided that a combination of these defects shall not be permitted where they cause material disfiguration. Each apple of this grade shall have the amount of color specified hereinafter for the variety.

#### C or No. 3 Grade.

C grade or No. 3 shall consist of apples of one variety which are mature and not badly misshapen and which are free from decay, soft bruises, broken skins, and from serious damage caused by disease, insects, or mechanical or other means, except that slight visible water core and scab spots affecting an aggregate area of not more than one-half inch in diameter and small healed worm stings shall be permitted.

#### No. 4 Grade.

No. 4 grade shall consist of apples which do not meet the requirements of the foregoing grades but are free from decay and diseases and pests, the shipment of which is prohibited by state law.

(Continued over)

OREGON STATE APPLE GRADES (CONTINUED).Combination Grades.

When Extra Fancy (No. 1) and Fancy (No. 2) apples are packed together the boxes may be marked "Combination Extra Fancy and Fancy." When Fancy (No. 2) and C grade (No. 3) apples are packed together the boxes may be marked "Combination Fancy and C grade." Any such combination grade shall contain at least 25 per cent of apples which meet the requirements of the higher grade. If Extra Fancy (No. 1), Fancy (No. 2), and C grade (No. 3) apples are packed together as a combination grade at least 25 per cent of the apples in any package shall meet the requirements of the highest grade. If any lot of apples falls below the requirements of Extra Fancy (No. 1), Fancy (No. 2), or C grade (No. 3), on account of the presence of No. 4 grade apples, the boxes may be marked "Combination.....(inserting name of grade) and No. 4," if 50 per cent of the apples meet the requirements of the higher grade.

Tolerance.

In each of the foregoing grades in order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling, not more than 10 per cent, by count, of any lot may be below the requirements of the grade but no part of this tolerance shall be allowed for decay.

Color.

In addition to the foregoing requirements for Extra Fancy (No. 1) and Fancy (No. 2) each apple of these grades must have the percentage of color shown in the table below. "Color" means that portion of the surface of an apple which shows a good shade of red characteristic of the variety.

<u>Table for Color.</u>					
<u>Solid Red Varieties.</u>			<u>Striped or Partial Red Varieties (ctd).</u>		
	%	%		%	%
	Extra	Fancy		Extra	Fancy
	Fancy			Fancy	
Aiken Red.....	75	25	Stayman Winesap...	65	25
Arkansas Black....	75	25	Jonathan.....	50	25
Baldwin.....	75	25	McIntosh Red.....	65	25
Black Ben Davis...	75	25	Black Twig.....	50	25
Detroit Red.....	75	25	Ben Davis.....	50	15
Gano.....	75	25	Bonum.....	50	15
King David.....	75	25	Fameuse.....	50	15
Red June.....	75	25	Geniton.....	50	15
Spitzenburg Esopus	65	25	Hubbardston.....	50	15
Vanderpool.....	75	25	Limbertwig.....	50	15
Winesap.....	75	25	Missouri Pippin...	50	15
			Northern Spy.....	50	15
			Ontario.....	50	15
<u>Striped or Partial Red Varieties</u>			Red Astrachan.....	50	15
Spitzenburg Kaign.	65	25	Rainier.....	50	15
Delicious.....	65	25			

(Continued on next Page)



OREGON STATE APPLE GRADES (CONTINUED)

<u>Striped or Partial Red Varieties (ctd)</u>					
	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
	<u>Extra</u>	<u>Fancy</u>		<u>Extra</u>	<u>Fancy</u>
	<u>Fancy</u>			<u>Fancy</u>	
Rome Beauty*.....	50	15	Alexander.....	25	10
Salome.....	50	15	Chenango.....	25	10
Stark.....	50	15	Gravenstein.....	25	10
Sutton.....	50	15	Jeffries.....	25	10
Willow Twig.....	50	15	King.....	25	10
Wagener.....	50	15	Oldenburg.....	25	10
Wealthy.....	50	15	Snawasssee.....	25	10
York Imperial....	50	15	Twenty Ounce.....	25	10

\*No color requirements for Fancy Rome Beauty 100 and larger.

Red Cheeked or Blushed Varieties.

Extra Fancy--Perceptibly blushed cheek.

Fancy--No color requirements. Hydes King, Maiden Blush, Winter Banana, Red Cheek Pippin.

Green and Yellow Varieties.

Extra Fancy--Characteristic color.

Fancy--No color requirements. Grimes Golden, Yellow Newtown, White Winter Pearmain, Cox's Orange Pippin, Yellow Bellefleur, Ortley, Rhode Island Greening.

Size.

The size of the apples in any box shall be plainly stamped or otherwise marked on the package in terms of numerical count or minimum size.

"Minimum size" means the transverse diameter of the smallest apples permitted in the package taken at right angles to a line running from the stem to the blossom end. Minimum size shall be stated in terms of whole and quarter inches as 2 inches, 2 $\frac{1}{4}$  inches, etc., in accordance with the facts. In order to allow for variations incident to proper sizing not more than 5 per cent, by weight, of the apples in any package may be below the specified minimum size.

Definition of Terms.

As used in these grades:

1. "Mature" means having reached the stage of maturity which will insure the proper completion of the ripening process.
2. "Clean" means reasonably free from dust or dirt, and free from excessive visible spray residue.
3. "Well formed" means having the shape characteristic of the variety.

(Continued over)

OREGON STATE APPLE GRADES (CONTINUED).Definition of Terms. (ctd)

4. "Free from damage" means that the apples shall not be injured to an extent apparent in the process of proper grading and handling.

5. "Fairly well formed" means that the apples may be of slightly abnormal shape.

6. "Slight injury" means that the injury has not materially affected the appearance. The following injuries shall be considered slight: (1) Limb-rubs which are not soft and which affect not to exceed an aggregate area of  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in diameter. (2) Sun-scald, if the normal red color of the fruit is not materially changed or where an aggregate area of not more than one inch in diameter is discolored but without any blistering or cracking of the skin. (3) Drouth spots, which are only slightly discolored and depressed and where the aggregate area does not exceed  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in diameter. (4) Hail marks, where the injury is superficial and the skin has not been broken or discolored. (5) Smooth russetting, where the injury is net-like such as is characteristic of mildew injury or leaf scratches and where the affected area does not exceed an aggregate of 10 per cent of the surface and does not affect the appearance of more than 20 per cent of the surface, or russet which is heavy or bark-like such as is characteristic of frost injury or green fruit worm or leaf roller injury where the aggregate area affected does not exceed  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in diameter.

7. "Small healed worm stings" means stings showing a dark discoloration not larger than  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch in diameter exclusive of any encircling green ring and where the injury is superficial and the injured tissue is dry and corky.

8. "Badly misshapen" means that more than one-fourth of the surface is deformed.

9. "Free from serious damage" means that no defects shall be permitted which, taken singly or collectively, seriously deform or disfigure the fruit.

10. "Slight visible water core" means that an aggregate area of not more than one inch in diameter is affected by water core.

8c. OHIO APPLES BEING INSPECTED.

O. G. Strauss, in charge of the shipping-point inspection work in Ohio, was at Gallipolis on September 25, when he wrote this report:- "Made my first trip to Rome today and got in touch with Mr. Jones, the inspector at that point.

"Packing started on Romes at both Rome and Ensee this morning. Will start packing here tomorrow afternoon.

"An effort was being made at Rome to pack a U. S. Fancy. I found it would be impossible for these to grade, the way they were sorting, and also that they were getting dangerously near the limit of the tolerance on the U.S. No. 1. I explained to the growers that it would be necessary for them to be much more particular, if they wanted to pack the Fancy grade, and also showed them that they were barely meeting the No. 1 grade, due to the fact that all the better apples were taken out. They were taking considerable time to pack this Fancy Grade, and I suggested they allow these to go in the No. 1 Grade and make a good grade out of this and build a reputation (which they wish to do with the 'Buckeye' Brand) from this grade. This afternoon they eliminated the Fancy Grade.

"At Ensee they are making no effort to pack a Fancy Grade, and no effort is to be made here at Gallipolis."



9c. INSPECTION SITUATION IN CALIFORNIA.

In an interesting letter of September 18 from Fresno, Mr. Robb wrote as follows concerning the shipping-point inspection work in California:

"Mildew is the big problem here this year. The great difficulty is that no one knows exactly what will happen in transit to grapes which show mildew at shipping point, either on the stems or on the berries. All mildew appears to be dormant at the present time, and the authorities differ as to whether it will develop in transit under refrigeration. Personally, I believe that this difficulty has been greatly magnified. I am wiring to Dr. Rose for observations as to the condition in which mildewed stock is arriving. He made a careful study of it in the vineyards here, and should be able to contribute some valuable information.

"The total number of inspections will probably exceed the earlier estimates. It was thought that the trade would request 18,000 inspections. The carriers have come in with a large number of requests on cars of low-quality fruit, on which the shippers were not asking for inspection. This will probably add 5,000 more cars. It is understood that the carriers have set aside \$50,000 for inspection work. About half of this will be spent in maintaining a force of inspectors, or rather spotters, whose duty it is to watch for cars of low-grade products and file requests with the State Department for inspection. I believe that this is going to work out satisfactorily, and seems to be satisfactory to all parties. In a number of instances, shippers who have found out that inspection was going to be requested by the carriers, have requested the inspection themselves, so that they might know just what kind of a report the carrier is going to receive.

"The task of organizing a force adequate to inspect this large volume of fruit has been a difficult one. Mr. Powell has been doing splendid work in this connection, and all available men in the standardization work have been used. The inspectors are largely Agricultural School men, although a large number have been secured from the trade. They are, as a whole, a high-class bunch of fellows, and well able to perform their work. As a whole, I believe that the work is going well, and find that the shippers generally are well pleased with the Service.

"I expect to spend two or three more days here, and then proceed to Los Angeles. Upon my return to Sacramento, Mr. Rogers and I are going to drive to Watsonville to observe the apple work, and to Salinas, which is near Colma, to see the lettuce work. I shall then proceed to the Northwest, unless there seems to be urgent necessity for my going sooner, in which case I shall have to shorten my visit to various sections in this State."

ROBERT BIER,

Supervising Inspector.

OFFICE NOTES:

This week's "B.A.E. News" contains an important announcement of re-organization in the executive offices of the Bureau. C. W. Kitchen, formerly in charge of our Market News Service and Superintendent of Center Market since April, 1922, is to be Business Manager of the Bureau. Mr. Kitchen will still have supervisory charge of Center Market, but his office will be on the 7th floor of the Bieber Building. Read "The B.A.E. News" for further details of the changes, which are effective October 1. Page 7 of the "News" also contains a summary of the remarks made by Robert Bier at Monday's meeting of the Bureau Council. Mr. Bier told of the rapid expansion of shipping-point inspection work and what the future may hold in store for that special service.

Mr. Sherman returned to his desk on Tuesday afternoon, following his trip to Chicago and other points.

Mr. Samson was back in the office by Monday morning, having stopped at Boston, New York and Philadelphia on his return trip from Maine. He reports that as many as 10 inspectors probably will be required this season to handle the work on potatoes at shipping points in Aroostook County. Mr. Samson is in New York City today, attending a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Maine Potato Growers' Exchange and officials of the Federated Fruit and Vegetable Growers. Final arrangements for a large part of the Maine inspection work doubtless will be made at this meeting.

Mr. Boree resumed work on Wednesday, after about a week's leave. He will spend part of Friday and Saturday at Martinsburg, W. Va., in conference with F. H. Scruggs regarding the apple market reports.

V. D. Callanan is now assisting with the work in the main office of the News Service, devoting special attention for the present to the editing of field station summaries which it is hoped to issue in the near future. He reports that W. E. Harrison, whom he recently relieved in Baltimore, spent part of his vacation at Niagara Falls. Mr. Harrison is making arrangements whereby he expects to complete his market reports early enough each day for publication in the evening newspapers of Baltimore the same day of release.

After leaving Fresno, Mr. Robb was in Los Angeles for a short time. The latest word from him indicates that he is in Sacramento for some days, and that he can be reached through W. F. Allewelt, State Dept. of Agriculture.

Mr. Stillwell was in San Francisco, according to last reports, conferring with C. J. Hansen and others regarding the market news work. His tentative itinerary is as follows, although he may not be able to follow this schedule exactly: Oct. 1, Fresno; Oct. 2-7, Los Angeles; Oct. 8th, San Francisco; 9th Sacramento; 11th & 12th Portland; 13th Seattle; 14th-16th Spokane; 18th & 19th Idaho Falls; 21st-23rd Moorhead, Minn.; 24th & 25th Minneapolis; 26th Waupaca, Wis.; 27th Madison, Wis.; 28th & 29th Chicago.



OFFICE NOTES. (Continued):

The Caldwell field station on potatoes was closed last Saturday, and A. E. Fragh has now moved to Idaho Falls, where he is continuing the potato market reports.

After closing the temporary field station at Rocky Ford, Colo., R. H. Lamb will report in Denver by the end of this week, where he will substitute for John D. Snow, while the latter visits various producing sections in that territory. Mr. Snow probably will be traveling during the entire first half of October.

The new inspection office at San Antonio, Texas, will not be opened until about November 1, instead of October 15, as originally planned.

Mr. Evans spent Monday in New York and Philadelphia, conferring with U.S. attorneys regarding the status of pending excess-wool-profits cases and arranging for their early trial in district courts. He also visited the offices of the F. & V. Division in both cities.

Having returned from his West Virginia trip in the interest of the Domestic Wool Section, H. V. DeMott expects to leave on Friday for Billings, Mont., where he will testify in the suit against William Rea, Jr., for the recovery of excess profits made on 1913 wool clip. This trial is scheduled for October 3. En route to Billings, Mr. DeMott will stop off at Chicago for a short time, and on his return trip may visit wool dealers at various points in Michigan. J. S. Behannon, of the Solicitor's Office, also will go to Billings to render legal assistance in the Government's case against William Rea, Jr. Mr. Behannon, while on this trip, plans to confer with U.S. attorneys who are handling wool-profits cases at other points, principally Sioux City, Iowa; Kansas City, Moberly, and St. Louis, Mo.; Chicago, Detroit, Ft. Wayne, Ind., and Columbus.

B. H. Rowell, of the Chicago inspection staff, has been assigned permanently to the Indianapolis office, and will assume charge by October 1. Mr. Green, who has been handling the Indianapolis work this week, will return to headquarters at Cleveland. On your list of Inspectors, cancel Mr. Rowell's name under Chicago and substitute if for O. G. Strauss, at Indianapolis.

Word has been received from the New York office, telling of the registration of Rogers Koops, effective October 5. This Saturday will be his last day of work. Mr. Koops has been in the F. & V. Division since May 15. His name should be cancelled under New York City on the list of Inspectors.

W. C. Hangstafer, of Philadelphia, is assisting temporarily with the rush of inspection work in New York City. T. L. Kelly, Navy Inspector in Philadelphia, is on annual leave until October 2.

In Table 1 on page 4 of Farmers' Bulletin 1316, "Marketing the Early Potato Crop," Hamonton should be cancelled as a shipping point for white potatoes in southern New Jersey. Please correct your copy.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

A splendid summary of the Eastern Shore of Virginia potato season has just been issued by E. R. Biddle, of the Philadelphia office. The front cover is made especially attractive by a clear outline map of the United States, size  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$  inches, on which lines have been drawn to show the distribution of potatoes from the Eastern Shore. Copies of this report can be secured from Mr. Biddle.

Last Monday, at Roanoke, Va., Miss Elizabeth R. Sanders, of Mr. Clay's section was united in marriage to Hubert William Estes, Mr. and Mrs. Estes will be at home after October 10 at 1029 - 22nd Street, N.W., Washington.

After a record of more than five years' service in our Boston office, Mrs. Anna Day Wood has resigned, effective September 30, to take up college studies. Miss Helen M. Walsh, who has been Head Clerk in the joint office at Boston, will succeed Mrs. Wood, in our Inspection office.

A new temporary clerk in Mr. Fiske's section is Mrs. Mae E. Dove, formerly of the Patent Office. Wm. E. Hudmon, who has been assisting in the compilation of the new bulletin on carlot shipments, resigned on September 24, to accept a position in the Treasury Dept.

Having completed his marketing studies in Philadelphia, R. M. Upton has been granted a year's furlough, in order that he may finish certain work on which he has been engaged as Director of the Rehabilitation Division of the University of Delaware, at Newark, Del.

R. C. Butner's proposed trip to the potato-producing sections of Nebraska has been deferred until early October.

L. G. Schultz, Supervising Inspector in Idaho, spent yesterday at Lewiston with F. E. Bailey, of the Washington staff, and planned to spend the latter part of this week with Mr. Bailey, at Spokane.

Having returned from his vacation trip to Texas, F. M. Lyle has resumed charge of the inspection work in New Haven, Conn., and W. H. Steinbauer will go from New Haven to New York.

The September -October issue of "The Business Woman" magazine contains an excellent article by Miss C. B. Sherman, entitled "Feeding the Nation." It tells of the important part which women have in the work of this Bureau, especially the Market News Service on fruits and vegetables and on live stock and meats, as well as in the library and in all other offices of the Bureau. Typical examples are given in the persons of Miss Lucy Watt and Miss May Eldridge, of the Washington staff, and Mrs. L. B. Gerry, of the Spokane office. Representatives for the Division of Live Stock, Meats and Wool are Miss Edna M. Jordan and Mrs. Anna P. Neel. The service rendered by the Bureau Librarian, Miss Mary G. Lacy, also is mentioned. Half-tone cuts of these six workers illustrate the story. (It will be remembered that Miss Eldridge died in June, 1923.)



OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

A recent letter from T. C. Curry, of the Atlanta office, tells of the cooperation he is receiving from local newspapers in the dissemination of market news. He enclosed a clipping from the "Atlanta Georgian" in which the weekly market review, as sent from Washington, was printed in full. He speaks also of the cooperation rendered by the "Atlanta Constitution." The "Journal" publishes the weekly review in its Sunday edition.

As described in the Division Letter for September 13, the special releases for country papers, which C. L. Brown has been furnishing from the Rochester office, seem to be meeting with much favor. These periodical market stories on a number of western New York products are now being sent to 22 country newspapers and to 15 monthlies issued by the Farm Bureau. Mr. Brown estimates that the combined circulation of these papers is 150,000 to 200,000.

H. A. Spilman advises that he will be in Minneapolis from Thursday until Saturday of this week, in the interest of the Standard Container Act.

R. R. Pailthorp, who is investigating the extent and causes of rejections of apple shipments from the Northwest, has recently been pursuing this study in Seattle, and now has gone to Yakima for this same purpose.

A fair is being held at Martinsburg, W. Va., this week, and on Wednesday the judge of the fruit and vegetable exhibits was J. J. Gardner, who is supervising apple-inspection work in that territory. On Tuesday, Mr. Gardner visited W. C. Lynn, supervisor of fruit inspections at Chambersburg, Pa.

C. W. Hauck is running somewhat behind his schedule on the trip in the interest of canning-house tomato grades. He was not able to leave Rochester until the night of September 24.

Please note that all communications for E. E. Conklin, Jr., should be addressed to him at Room 505, Duffy-Powers Bldg., Rochester, instead of Room 419. The D.L. was in error last week, in giving Mr. Conklin's address as Room 39, Federal Bldg., Rochester, and the address of both Mr. Conklin and H. S. Duncan, on the shipping-point inspection list, should be changed to Room 505, Duffy-Powers Bldg.

The address of T. L. Kelly, at Philadelphia, has been changed from Building "A" to Building 83, Navy Yard. Correct your copy of the list of Inspectors' addresses.

As mentioned on another page of this Division Letter, the three men who are handling onion inspection work in Indiana, now have their headquarters at different points, as follows: C. H. Behnke, is at Warsaw, Ind. J. E. Dickerson is at Knox, Ind. S. H. Fountain is at Auburn, Ind.

The Chamber of Commerce, Waupaca, Wis., has changed its location, but our field station on potatoes is still operated in conjunction with the State broadcasting station and the correct address of this joint office is 116 E. Union Street, instead of Chamber of Commerce (as last year).





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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 39

October 4, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. VIRGINIA APPLES IN BOXES.

In reply to a recent inquiry, O. D. Miller, of the New York office, furnished the following data concerning eastern apples packed in boxes:-

"I have made an effort to learn whether or not any Georgia apples packed in boxes had been received in New York this season, and find that no such shipments arrived. A car of boxed Delicious arrived from Virginia last week, however. These were packed in the standard apple box used in the Northwest and were graded Extra Fancy and Fancy. The sizes ranged from 125s to 88s, and would fall entirely within our classification 'large.' The receiver admitted that they did not have the attractive shape and color of the northwestern product. They were sold at private sale in rather a small way, and brought \$2.50-5.00, according to size and color, which compares very favorably with sales of Delicious from Washington on this market during the past week. The latter have sold at auction in a range of \$3.25-4.20 for Extra Fancy, medium to very large sizes, and in a range of \$1.90-3.65 for combination Fancy and 'C' grade."

2a. IMPERIAL VALLEY LETTUCE PROSPECTS.

The following statement from H. A. Harris, of Los Angeles, under date of September 28, is for the information of our own men, and not for release:

"While of course only the earliest Imperial Valley lettuce has been planted, it seems quite evident that the acreage this year will be slightly in excess of last season's.

"At this time of the year various shippers are busy spreading stories about the huge acreage that is to be put in, hoping to scare out some of the newcomers; 20,000 acres is the figure most commonly advanced as the estimate of the probable acreage. However, from the best information which we can gather, it seems probable that the acreage will be between 15,000 and 16,000, or about 1,000 acres more than last year. We shall advise you further as the planting progresses."

3a. IDAHO PRUNES IN LOS ANGELES.

In another letter of September 28, H.A. Harris tells of the arrival of Idaho prunes in Los Angeles:

"The past week this market received two cars of Idaho prunes, the first car in bushel baskets, the second in regular suitcases or 18-pound boxes. It is very unusual for Idaho prunes to come to Los Angeles and this is the first time they have ever been seen here in bushel baskets. They sold quite readily, however, at 5-5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per pound to the retailer, but I notice that many jobbers sold them in lug boxes, as they found that their trade took them more readily in this smaller package than in the bushel baskets."

## TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
SACRAMENTO, CALIF. ** Room 27, Mall Bldg.	918	C. E. Schultz	Pears* Peaches* Pl. & Pr.* Grapes	July 17 July 17 July 17 Aug. 6	Oct. 1* Oct. 1* Aug. 4* Nov. 1
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. ** Chamber of Commerce	846	W. J. Bertush	Potatoes Pears * Peaches* Apples	Aug. 7 Aug. 15 Aug. 24 Sept. 20	Nov. 1 Sept. 29* Sept. 19* Nov. 1
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears Peaches Apples Potatoes Cabbage	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 28	Oct. 15 Oct. 10 Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 15
BENTON HARBOR, MICH. ** B.H. State Bank Bldg.	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Peaches* Grapes Apples Potatoes Onions	Sept. 6 Aug. 27 Aug. 27 Sept. 20 Sept. 20	Sept. 25* Oct. 15 Oct. 15 Oct. 15 Oct. 15
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 17	Mar. 1
WAUPACA, WIS. ** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
MARTINSBURG, W. VA. Room 18, Court House	835	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 21	Nov. 1
GRAND FORKS, N. DAK. 206 Federal Bldg.	843	J. W. Park	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Mar. 1
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30

The following station probably will open on date indicated:

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. **	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples Onions	Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Oct. 18	Apr. 30 Nov. 15 Nov. 15
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\*Reports discontinued.

\*\*State Dept. cooperating.

R. H. Lamb, in Denver office.



## MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

1b. CHECK UP RECEIPT OF MATERIAL FROM WASHINGTON.

All copies of the Washington reports, consisting of the daily bulletins, carlot summaries and weekly reviews, are now being mimeographed and mailed from the Division of Publications of this Department, instead of direct from this office as formerly. It is requested that each market and field station keep a record of these reports, and advise us if they are not being received regularly and promptly. We try to see that all men in the field get this material, but cannot be sure that they do unless they cooperate with us.

2b. ILLUSTRATIONS ON STENCILS.

One of the most clever pieces of illustration on a stencil has been received from G. L. Morris, Statistician of the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates, located in the Federal Building at Nashville, Tenn. This is a special release (dated Oct. 2) on the cotton situation, and covers one stencil. It is worded in an unusual way and, being illustrated, should attract the attention of all readers. The opening paragraph reads as follows:-

"WHO HAS NOT HEARD OF THE RULE OF THREE?

in this space  
is a sketch of  
two rabbits,  
sitting under  
an umbrella,  
seeking pro-  
tection from  
heavy rain.

"The three R's have long been impressed, but 1923 sounds another note. So far as the cotton crop is concerned, it is the three W's - WEATHER, WEEVIL, WORMS - says G. L. Morris, Statistician, Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates, U. S. Department of Agriculture, commenting on the condition of the cotton crop as of September 25."

The report then proceeds with an account of damage resulting from the rains of August and September.

Opposite the paragraph describing the destructive attacks of the leaf, or army, worm is a sketch of a leaf, on which a long worm is feeding. In the paragraphs telling of the damage from weevil,

sketches of a few of these enemies  are scattered throughout the text,

just as if the insects were crawling across the paper. The release concludes with a statistical statement of the condition of Tennessee's cotton crop, by counties. As an end-piece, there is a twig with two leaves.

Other good examples of illustrations on stencils are found in the Preliminary Report on Terminal Conditions at the Port of New York as They Affect the Cost of Marketing Fruits and Vegetables. This was issued in March by Walter P. Hedden, Research Agent in Marketing, of the Cost of Marketing Division. Chart "A" depicts in graphic form the trends of population and of long-haul fruit traffic in New York during the past 20 years. Chart "B" is a diagram of Pier 29 Vicinity, Showing Method of Making Pierhead Delivery. It represents what one would see, if he were in the air directly above Pier 29. The diagram shows Pier 29 (and 28) extending into the river; a car float with 10 cars, alongside Pier 29; the bulkhead; the bonnet sheds, and West Street. On the pier and in the adjacent passageways are the horse-drawn shuttle trucks and the jobbers' motor trucks. Even the piles of produce are shown on the pier. It is a very clear picture of traffic.

3b. LIST OF OFFICES ON LEASED-WIRE CIRCUITS.

Effective October 1, the leased-wire circuits of the Bureau were rearranged as shown in the following list. Keep these various circuits in mind, when using the leased wire.

(F&V) means Fruits & Vegetables. (LS) Livestock. (DP) Dairy Products.

EASTERN CIRCUIT

Washington  
Baltimore  
Harrisburg (State)  
Lancaster (State)  
Trenton (State)  
Philadelphia  
New York  
Boston

CENTRAL CIRCUIT (F&V)

Washington  
Pittsburgh  
Cincinnati  
Chicago  
St. Louis  
Kansas City

SOUTHERN CIRCUIT

Washington  
Richmond (State)  
Raleigh (State)  
Atlanta

WESTERN CIRCUIT

Kansas City  
Denver  
Salt Lake City  
Sacramento  
San Francisco

SOUTHEASTERN CIRCUIT

Kansas City  
Fort Worth  
Austin (State)

LIVESTOCK CIRCUIT

Washington  
Columbus (State)  
Chicago (LS)&(DP)  
Wapaca (F&V)  
Ford Ct. Lac (DP)  
Minneapolis (F&V)&(DP)  
So. St. Paul  
E. St. Louis  
Jefferson City (State)  
Kansas City  
Omaha

4b. BETTER LEASED-WIRE FACILITIES.

With the establishment of a new leased-wire circuit from Washington to Chicago, it will be possible for us to handle market reports much more promptly than formerly, when all market news services had to use the one wire between these points. As conditions now are, the old Central Circuit is used principally for the fruit and vegetable reports. This should enable practically every office on the Central Circuit to send its reports almost as soon as filed, something which was not possible under former conditions.

It is requested that each market station on the Central Circuit make a special endeavor to file its market wires just as early as possible. The earlier they can be filed, the sooner the information can be released, not only on the Central Circuit but to the West and East. Please give this matter your special attention. We realize that under former conditions there was no incentive to speed up the filing of market reports, as they could not be sent until a certain time anyway. This obstacle has now been removed.

IF YOU EVER FAIL TO RECEIVE YOUR DIVISION LETTER, TELL WASHINGTON ABOUT IT.



5b. RED RIVER VALLEY POTATOES.

J. W. Park, who is issuing potato market reports in the Grand Forks-Moorhead section, explains local conditions in the following letter of September 29:-

"Potatoes from this section are usually hauled in wagonloads to the warehouses of the dealers, and are there run over the graders, usually being hand-picked to eliminate the knobby potatoes and those which are defective from other causes. This year, there are numerous growth cracks, and the majority of dealers do not claim that the stock would pass as U. S. No. 1, although they think it should be rated as No. 1, stock. Upon the advice of several dealers, I have been quoting the potatoes simply as graded, but have not used the designation U. S. No. 1."

6b. CATALOGUE OF CALIFORNIA GRAPES.

In June, 1922, a "Descriptive Catalogue of California Grapes" was compiled by the California Bureau of Standardization and the Viticultural Service, and distributed by the State Dept. of Agriculture as Special Publication No. 25

This 30-page booklet lists in alphabetical order the names of about 115 varieties of grapes, telling the season and the general use of each kind and giving detailed characteristics under the heading of Color, Cluster, Berry, and Growth.

In his market reports on grapes, C. E. Schultz, of the Sacramento office, says that he has been using slightly different spellings for some of these varieties, but that he has now made the spelling of all variety names to agree with this Catalogue. Mr. Schultz kindly offers to send a copy of this booklet to any market reporter or other employee who desires it. Send your request directly to him at Room 27, Mull Bldg., Sacramento.

7b. ARTICLES FOR "WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS."

In the future, only one carbon copy, instead of two, needs to be submitted with the ribbon copy of articles intended for publication in Weather, Crops and Markets.

Some men perhaps wonder why individual receipt or acknowledgment is not sent for their articles. This has never been deemed necessary, because the publication of the story itself in the paper is evidence of its receipt. Articles are used by the editor of Weather, Crops and Markets (on the 7th floor of the Bieber Bldg.) as promptly as space permits. Watch the successive issues of the paper, or observe the index to Weather, Crops and Markets published with each D.L., where credit is given by name to all authors of articles.

Recently there has been a very gratifying response to requests for material. The next two issues of the paper will contain a lot of fruit and vegetable stories. **KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.**

B. C. BCRRE,  
Investigator in Market Surveys

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK SEPT. 24-29 INC. (REDUCED TO EAST.TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number			
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed Posted Delivered	
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>							
New York-	Misc. R	12:50	1:28	38	11	6015	1727
Washington-	Misc.	1:02	1:48	46	10	2540	--
Atlanta-	Misc.	1:02	1:51	49	13	5339	--
Philadelphia-	Misc. R	12:59	1:54	55	22	18095	405
Baltimore-	Misc.	1:24	2:22	58	15	625	--
Boston-	Misc. M	12:51	2:06	75	15	3925	200
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>							
St. Louis-	Misc. Q	12:17	12:37	20	12	5575	180
Chicago-	Misc.	11:52	12:16	24	19	7500	3200
Cincinnati-	Misc.	12:37	1:03	26	10	4495	181
Kansas City-	Misc.	12:24	12:50	26	10	3300	1670
Pittsburgh-	Misc.	12:09	12:42	33	12	2396	--
Minneapolis-	Misc. R	12:26	1:01	35	15	5990	132
Ft. Worth-	Misc.	1:07	1:42	41	12	1689	282
Denver-	Misc. R	2:15	3:48	93	10	7897	--
Washington (Nat'l)	BGKLNPR	Ship.	Inf.	P'nuts.	105	37190	1053
TOTAL		12:48#	1:32#	41#	291	112,571	9,030
" previous week		12:51#	1:30#	39#	290	112,413	5,116
<u>WESTERN OFFICES (Sept. 17-22)</u>							
Los Angeles-	Misc.	4:05	4:52	47	11	10,620	--
Portland-	LM	2:05	3:52	107	17	8,400	--
San Francisco-	Misc.	4:02	5:06	66	15	3,054	--
Salt Lake-	Misc.	2:30	4:30	120	120	11,050	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date					9,176	3,927,946	208,011

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK SEPT. 24-29 INC. (REDUCED TO CENT.TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Benton Harbor-	BKLNPR	1:51	2:50	9,219	1,537	54	--
Grand Forks-	R	12:43	1:18	1,210	240	700	--
Grand Junction	BPR	2:29	3:35	2,970	470	8	--
Idaho Falls-	R	2:08	3:24	5,355	1,053	--	--
Martinsburg-	B	2:37	3:33	3,193	454	27	--
Presque Isle-	R	1:43	3:20	10,577	1,763	17	--
Rochester-	BFNPR-Misc.	2:45	3:43	4,516	740	15	--
Rocky Ford-	G	3:02	3:55	1,680	387	5	--
*Sacramento-	INP	4:13	5:03	6,950	1,158	2	--
Spokane-	B	12:46	2:36	11,555	1,811	--	3
Waunaca-	R	11:52	2:07	7,259	1,210	9	--
TOTAL		2:01#	3:13#	54,489	#	Average time	
" previous week		2:18#	3:31#	60,626	*	Reports for Sept. 17-22	

TOTAL JAN. 1 to date

1,235,790

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 5,371,747



INSPECTION SERVICE.

1c. SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION HANDBOOKS.

About a week ago, a copy of the new Shipping-Point Inspection Handbook was mailed to each inspection office. This is for reference purposes, so that all Inspectors may have at hand a complete statement of methods and instructions governing the work at country shipping points. The men in offices where there is more than one Inspector should keep this in mind, and ask the man in charge to let you see the office copy of the new Handbook, whenever necessary.

The necessary papers on which each office is to receipt for the binder in which the Handbook is fastened, will be furnished soon. If your copy of the new Handbook and the papers for receipt of binder are not delivered promptly, advise the Washington office.

2c. APPLE INSPECTIONS IN OHIO.

On September 27, O. G. Strauss sent the following additional information concerning apple inspection work at shipping points in Ohio: "Packing has now started at all three of the packing houses. Rome and Ensee started Tuesday and they started here at Gallipolis today. None of these houses have as yet loaded a car, and we will hardly issue a certificate before tomorrow.

"The Rome and Ensee houses are located in the vicinity of Huntington, W. Va. Neither of them is on a railroad. At Ensee it is necessary to haul the apples about 5 miles to the river, over roads that are very rough; then ferry across the river. It is the same at Rome, except the haul is only about 3 miles to the ferry and the roads are better.

"One of the first cars going out will be from the Ensee house and will contain Ohio 'A' grade in the Leigh-Way hampers. There may be some complaint on the pack of this package. It is practically impossible to get any kind of a bulge on the lid and they will no doubt all be shipped with the lids flat. I am very anxious to learn how this package arrives at the terminal market and will request a report from the Inspector at receiving point.

"All houses are now packing only two grades, the Ohio 'A' and 'B'. One house made some effort to put up a U. S. Fancy but discontinued this effort. The 'A' grade is all packed under the Buckeye Brand. We will inspect on the basis of the Ohio requirements, as all packages are being marked with this grade. This is the same as U. S. No. 1 with the exception of color, which is higher on the Ohio grade.

"In order to handle this deal and keep in closer touch with all the packing houses, I am moving to Huntington, W. Va. From there I can visit both Rome and Ensee one day and Gallipolis the next. Will get my mail 'general delivery,' Huntington, W. Va."

3c. COLOR REQUIREMENTS FOR WEST VIRGINIA APPLES.

The wording of color requirements for West Virginia standard "A" Grade apples, as adopted by the State Legislature this year, is slightly different from the wording in U. S. Grade No. 1. However, J. J. Gardner, Supervising Inspector in that territory, reports that the State Bureau of Markets interprets the requirements to mean exactly the same as those for U. S. No. 1, and inspectors in receiving markets should bear this in mind if the question arises.

4c. SHIPPING-POINT WORK IN WISCONSIN AND ILLINOIS.

Conditions affecting the inspection of cabbage and potatoes in Wisconsin and of apples in Illinois are described in a letter of September 26 from F. J. Baehler, Supervising Inspector for those States:-

"On Thursday I was with the cabbage inspectors in the Racine and Corliss district of Wisconsin. The work there is progressing satisfactorily, although shipments were held up during the latter part of last week on account of rain. The heavy shipments have not commenced yet, and the indications are that during October and November the work will be about double that of September.

"On Friday and Saturday a conference of the potato inspectors was held at Waupaca. Various matters pertaining to the work were covered and a course of instruction in grading was also given, in order to check up on the standards the men are following. All of those present were employed last season and they are all capable and efficient. Shipments of potatoes are not moving to any great extent, only a few scattered shipments of early stock having been loaded up to the present time. We have made a few inspections of bulk stock in the Antigo district, which produces the earliest shipments. The stock from this locality is also of exceptionally good quality, principally Rurals with some Green Mountains and Cobblers. Early estimates of the potato production for the State, in comparison with last year, were that in the northwest district there would be a 25% reduction, and in the central and north-central districts about 10%.

"However, the early frosts have damaged the crop in some localities to a considerable extent, and this will further reduce the output. I am informed that in the Plainfield district, south of Stevens Point, the damage has been very severe. In fact, it is reported that some fields will not be dug. In the other districts, while the frost killed the vines to some extent before the stock was mature, the damage will not be so heavy. The early shipments will probably be considerably skinned, but it is hoped that later the skin will become toughened and that the stock will not skin so readily. There is a possibility that field-frozen stock may be present in some localities. The Wisconsin shippers in most instances are very cautious about making shipments when there is any suspicion of field freezing. In such cases any stock that they have in the houses is held for a sufficient length of time for the damaged stock to become soft, when it can be culled out easily. Many shippers refuse to buy potatoes early in the season from districts where they suspect that the stock has been damaged in the field by freezing. They notify the growers to hold the stock until such potatoes as may be frozen can be sorted out. I understand that in the Waupaca district, the stock on the general run will be of only ordinary quality and, in many instances, heavy culling will be necessary in order to put out No. 1 shipments. In the northern districts the stock is usually of very good quality, but generally somewhat smaller in size than in the southern districts.

"The State Department contemplates modifying the regulatory measures pertaining to grading to the extent that Triumph stock may be shipped out,

(Continued on next Page)



graded on the basis of 1-1/2 inch minimum. This is necessary in view of the fact that practically all shipments of this variety are sold for seed purposes, and the 1-1/2 inch Triumph potato is amply large for seed stock. The State grade for certified stock provides a 1-1/2 inch minimum for this variety, and the growers of the non-certified stock feel that they should have the privilege of shipping on the same basis. While, in accordance with the State regulations, such stock could be shipped out if marked 'Ungraded,' the growers object to using this designation, claiming that it tends to influence southern buyers against such shipments. It is not definitely decided at the present time just what action will be taken, but the State probably will promulgate a regulation that Triumph stock may be shipped on the basis of 1-1/2 inch minimum without being marked 'Ungraded,' the tags merely stating '150 lbs. Triumph potatoes, 1-1/2 inches and larger.'

"Saturday evening Mr. B. B. Jones and I went to Appleton to interview some of the cabbage shippers in regard to establishing inspection in the northern districts. They are now loading out cars of kraut stock, but shipments of Hollander will not commence for about 10 days. The outlook is favorable for procuring a considerable amount of business in the vicinity.

"I am planning to be in the Racine and Corliss district Thursday and Friday of this week. The shippers are very well pleased with the inspection service and I have been informed that, in a number of cases where cars had been rejected at receiving markets (evidently due to market conditions), they were able to force acceptance at the invoice price, because they held inspection certificates.

"At the present time, we are making apple inspections in the southern districts of Illinois. At Newton a number of lots going into cold storage are being inspected. In these districts, many orchards are of poor quality and the fruit probably will be packed merely as 'Orchard Run.' I find that in putting over the inspection it is necessary also to put over the grades, before the inspection will be made use of to any large extent. In the western apple districts in Calhoun County and in the vicinity of Quincy, the quantity of the apples is good. Shipments in these districts have not commenced at this date but we are planning to locate two or possibly three inspectors there."

#### 5c. USE THE REVISED GRADES FOR BARRELED APPLES.

Associate Regional Supervisor Russell, of Chicago, calls attention to the importance of all inspectors using only the revised U. S. grades for barreled apples, bearing the date April 25, 1923, on last page. Examine your copies of the apple grades and be sure you are using only the one dated April 25. Previous issues can be kept for possible future reference, but they should have a large "X" marked across the front page to indicate that they are obsolete. Attention was called to the very similar appearance of these two sets of apple grades in the Division Letter for July 5, 1923, paragraph 3c; do not confuse them.



6c. REPORT OF UTAH INSPECTIONS TO SEPTEMBER 24.

An interesting letter of September 24, from A. E. Mercker, at Salt Lake City, tells of the volume of inspections handled at shipping points in Utah. His records show that more than half the Utah shipments of four leading products have been thus inspected this season:

<u>Utah Shipments to date (approx.)</u>			<u>Cars Inspected</u>
Peaches	1,275	.....	878
Potatoes	614	.....	157
Pears	47	.....	34
Prunes	4	.....	3
	1,940	.	1,072

Mr. Mercker's letter continues:- "The first car of peaches moved Sept. 2; about 6 moved the 3rd., and the market news report shows 256 cars moved the week of Sept. 2-8 inclusive, and 927 cars Sept. 9-15. Shipments were practically over by Sept. 15, so you can figure that we were rushed some, as the bulk of our inspections were made within a ten-day period.

"This section had done very little grading up to this year. In fact, the growers were not equipped to grade. Heretofore they picked their peaches and put them in bushel baskets. The picker would pick them right into the bushel baskets; consequently a lot of leaves, twigs and debris would be mixed in with the peaches, detracting from the appearance of the stock. In a few instances, growers used picking baskets. The buyers would not buy any peaches that did not grade U. S. No. 1, and the growers had no means of disposing of this undergraded stock, so that some cars had to be regraded. A good many loads were turned back at the car door, and these were either regraded or fed to the hogs. After the growers were educated to grading, they culled out 30% to 40% of their fruit, as many peaches showed Twig Borer injury with a gummy exudate about the injury, grasshopper injury, California Peach Blight and, in some localities, hail injury."

7c. POTATO INSPECTIONS IN NEW YORK STATE.

Writing from Avoca, N. Y., on October 3, E. E. Conklin, Jr., reports that the training of potato inspectors was started at Rochester last week, and now has been instituted at Avoca. The inspection crew at the latter place consists of 10 men. Shipments of potatoes have been light thus far, but Mr. Conklin states that the inspection service will be more extensive than last season's, spreading to points in Wyoming and Genesee counties and to new places in Steuben and Allegany counties. With respect to late blight the crop is good, but wire worm trouble was in evidence at the first inspections on October 2.

The peach inspection work in western New York did not turn out well. The crop had been greatly overestimated, and shipments fell far below the expected volume. Hilton, usually one of the heaviest shipping points, forwarded only 50 or 60 cars. Quality of the fruit was poor, color not good, and the crop ripened very unevenly. About 10 cars were inspected for the Western New York Fruit Packing Assn., but no certificates were issued because none of the fruit met the U. S. Grade No. 1. However, the inspection service was requested again for next season by a number of prominent shippers.

H. W. SAMSON,  
Specialist in Standardization.



OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman and Mr. Bier left last Sunday for the South. They stopped at Clemson College, S. C., to confer with M. M. Long, Director of the Extension Division of the Agricultural College, regarding the future shipping-point inspection work in that State. They planned also to visit the Atlanta office and the State Director of Markets in Georgia, to map out an inspection program for next season, mainly on peaches. At Jacksonville, Fla., Mr. Sherman and Mr. Bier were to confer with Commissioner Rhodes and other parties interested in the inspection of fruits and vegetables in that State. There is the possibility of a lot of work during the winter and spring on Florida citrus fruit and celery and tomatoes. Mr. Bier will visit growers and shippers at a number of points throughout the State and may not return to Washington until October 13. Mr. Sherman, however, is to return from Jacksonville, and expects to be at his desk again by Monday, the 8th.

In the absence of Mr. Sherman, Mr. Samson is acting in charge of the F. & V. Division this week.

Mr. Robb is visiting important markets and shipping points in Oregon and Washington, having been at Portland and Yakima recently. He will confer with the various Supervising Inspectors and with State officials in that territory. Until early next week, Mr. Robb can be reached by mail through our Spokane office.

On October 10, H. A. Spilman expects to attend the convention of the National Association of Basket and Fruit Package Manufacturers in Chicago. He was visiting package factories in the North Central States according to last report, and probably will be back in Washington by the 15th.

J. J. Gardner, supervising the apple inspection work in the Martinsburg section, spent today in the Washington office, conferring on various details of the shipping-point work. He returns to Martinsburg this evening.

The cooperative agreement for the inspection of potatoes in Maine has been suspended, because of the failure of the Maine Potato Growers' Exchange and independent dealers to guarantee sufficient tonnage to support the service. The Aroostook County crop this year is of good quality and shippers feel that the risks of rejection on account of undergrade stock are not great enough to justify the cost of Federal inspection. W. V. Stephens, who was located temporarily at Caribou, Maine, has now returned to his permanent headquarters in New York City.

Herbert Graff, who substituted for Inspectors Payne and Plummer in Boston while those two men were on vacation, resumed his position on the New York City staff some days ago.

In accordance with an item on another page of this D. L., it should be remembered that the address of Ober G. Strauss is now: General Delivery, Huntington, W. Va.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

C. R. Newton, of the Chicago inspection office, has gone to New Orleans, where he eventually will succeed C. D. Shirley, in charge of inspections in that city. Mr. Shirley will proceed to San Antonio, Texas, the latter part of this month. On your list of Inspectors, change Mr. Newton's name from Chicago to New Orleans.

R. M. Ferguson also should be cancelled from the list of Chicago Inspectors and should be added under Minneapolis. He has gone to the latter city where he will be associated in inspection work with C. E. Johnson.

C. L. Brown, of the Rochester office, is arranging for a special service through the newspapers in that city. He will furnish market information to the important dailies. Efforts also are being made to effect releases through the Associated Press. Mr. Brown is now gathering and distributing information on 9 products, his mailing list including about 750 names. He is handling twice as much work in the way of f.o.b. reports and special phone calls and wires as last season. The number of members of the trade calling at the Rochester office or frequently calling by long-distance phone is very gratifying.

Mr. Val, Sherman has been appointed as Agent in Colorado, to assist with publicity work in the office of the State Director of Markets, Jos. Passonneau, and the office of E. F. McKune, in charge of the inspection service.

Two clerk-typists recently appointed in the field are Miss Jeanette F. Wollmer, at the San Francisco office, and Miss Verna B. Ankele, at Denver. Miss Wollmer was transferred from the Bureau of Plant Industry.

In addition to the brief market reports on lettuce and onions, which R. L. Ringer has been issuing from the Portland office, he began bulletins on potatoes and apples the first of October.

October 6 has been designated as a local holiday in St. Louis, on account of the International Air Races, which were postponed from the first half of this week. Our St. Louis office will join in the observance of this occasion, during at least part of October 6.

F. M. Patton is planning to visit railroad officials at Richmond and Norfolk, Va., about Tuesday or Wednesday of next week.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 40

October 11, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. FARMERS' BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS.

For some months, the Division of Agricultural Cooperation has been communicating with cooperative organizations in all parts of the country, in an effort to secure a complete record of such organizations and their varied activities. To date, they have prepared in mimeographed form a dozen partial lists of these concerns, segregated on the basis of commodities. After the name and address of each organization, the respective selling activities are shown by key letters, and the buying activities of each organization are indicated by other key letters. The numbers and titles of these lists, and number of pages in each list, are shown below:

<u>Farmers' Business Organizations.</u>		
List No.	Title	No. of Pages.
1.	Cotton and Cotton Products.	3
2.	Dairy Products.	31
3.	Forage Crops.	2
4.	Fruits.	14
4 $\frac{1}{2}$ .	Fruits and Vegetables.	6
5.	Vegetables and Truck Crops.	11
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7.	Live Stock.	24
8.	Nuts.	3
9.	Poultry and Poultry Products.	3
10.	Tobacco.	2
11.	Wool and Mohair.	5

Offices having use for any or all of these lists, for the purpose of answering questions or general correspondence, can secure them in whatever quantities desired by addressing Mr. Morales, Division of Agricultural Cooperation, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington.

2a. FINE ISSUE OF WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS.

Please locate a copy of Weather, Crops and Markets for October 6 in your office, and examine carefully the fruit and vegetable articles on pages 355 to 360. With respect to the variety of subjects treated and the arrangement of material on the pages, this is nearly a model issue of the paper. It includes special stories by field and market men on apples, cabbage, cantaloupes, celery, lettuce, onions, peaches, pears, potatoes and watermelons. The weekly review treats of sweet potatoes, especially. A complete index to the paper is attached to this Division Letter.

3a. NEW F.O.B. AUCTION IN CHICAGO.

Beginning October 10, the new F.O.B. Auction Company started operations in Chicago. It is similar to the National Auction Company in Pittsburgh. These organizations are of special interest to the Fruit and Vegetable Division in that they sell goods on the basis of certification by the Federal-State shipping-point inspection service.

## TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.** Room 27, Mull Bldg.	918	C. E. Schultz	Pears* Peaches* Pl.&Pr.* Grapes	July 17 July 17 July 17 Aug. 6	Sept. 29* Sept. 29* Aug. 4* Nov. 1
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.** Chamber of Commerce	846	W. J. Bertush	Potatoes Pears * Peaches* Apples	Aug. 7 Aug. 15 Aug. 24 Sept. 20	Nov. 1 Oct. 4* Sept. 19* Nov. 1
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 28 Sept. 28	Oct. 31 Oct. 13* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 15 Jan. 15
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.** B.H.State Bank Bldg.	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Peaches* Grapes Apples Potatoes Onions	Sept. 6 Aug. 27 Aug. 27 Sept. 20 Sept. 20	Sept. 25* Oct. 17 Oct. 17 Oct. 17 Oct. 17
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 17	Mar. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
MARTINSBURG, W. VA. Room 18, Court House	835	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 21	Nov. 1
GRAND FORKS, N. DAK. 206 Federal Bldg.	843	J. W. Park	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Mar. 1
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30

The following station probably will open on date indicated:

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.**	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples Onions	Oct. 18 Oct. 18 Oct. 18	Apr. 30 Nov. 15 Nov. 15
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\*Reports discontinued. \*\* State Dept. cooperating. R. H. Lamb, in Kansas City.



MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

1b. ILLUSTRATIONS FOR WEEKLY REVIEW.

With this Division Letter, a copy of the Washington issue of the Weekly Market Review is being sent to all market news men. The main article on grapes is illustrated by a diagram, showing annual shipments of eastern and western grapes during the past four years.

We are wondering whether the offices, which receive the review over the leased wire each Tuesday and mimeograph and distribute it in their own territory, would care to use such illustrations on their issues of the review. It requires a little time to draw the diagram with a stylus, and sufficient blank space must be left in the body of the text to permit the insertion of the chart. In those offices where the telegraph operator cuts the stencil while he is receiving the review over the wire, this last feature may not be practicable because of the difficulty of his spacing the text properly.

If you can make satisfactory arrangements to have your office use the charts or diagrams on the review, please advise Washington immediately, and an effort will be made here to mail an advance copy of the illustrations early enough to reach your office by Tuesday noon.

2b. ADDITIONAL FIELD STATION SUMMARIES.

Mr. Callanan's Summary of the Northwestern Boxed Apple Deal, Season of 1922-23, and Mr. Brown's Summary of the Western and Central New York Cabbage Deal, Season of 1922-23, are being distributed this week. These are very complete reviews, and are illustrated with charts or maps.

3b. ARTICHOKES IN NEW YORK CITY.

In connection with the starting of market reports on artichokes for the benefit of the San Francisco office, O. D. Miller states that it should be possible to quote this commodity on the New York market daily between November 15 and April 30. Thus far, only one or two carloads a week have been arriving in that city. Later, the arrivals will amount to two or three cars daily. About 300 or more carloads of artichokes are consumed annually in New York.

Mr. Miller's letter continues as follows:

"I am advised that most artichokes for commercial shipment from California are grown by the San Francisco Artichoke Growers' Association; the San Pedro Artichoke Growers' Association; and the Half-Moon Bay Artichoke Growers' Association. Early shipments are mostly in drums holding from 50 to 60 pounds, but during the height of the season most shipments come in boxes (about half the capacity of a drum) and half-boxes.

"The demand for artichokes is confined largely to the Italian trade, but in all cities over 500,000 the population of this nationality probably is such as to create a quotable market during the heavy shipping season."

4b. INACTIVE MARKETS IN WESTERN NEW YORK.

In explanation of his frequent report of "too few sales to establish a market" in western New York, C. L. Brown, of the Rochester office, wrote as follows on October 2:

"You have probably noticed that our f.o.b. reports are coming in mostly: 'Too few sales to establish market,' and are wondering what the reason is. I cannot understand why there is not more trading at this time, but the fact remains that there is very little doing except a few sales on grapes and potatoes and an occasional sale of onions. Today I personally visited seven buyers and all of the shippers and brokers having offices in Rochester and was unable to pick up a single sale of apples, peaches, pears, or in fact anything except grapes. On coming back to the office, I called a number of out-of-town points and gave up trying to get anything because practically all fruit now moving is consigned or on previous orders. It was never so slow at any time last year. Shippers are holding off buying almost everything for the present, but perhaps as soon as there is a little cool weather orders will come and business will start up again.

"This morning I started a special report for the newspapers which gives the destinations and shipments in condensed form. These are also being delivered to local shippers and brokers and to the hotels where a large number of buyers consignment 'artists' and joint-account men are staying. Apparently this is meeting with good success, especially among the shippers. As you perhaps know, we have never been so strong with local operators as with out-of-town operators partly because our service has never been fast enough to do them any good. The new report mentioned above will give them the information more quickly, I believe, than it is being supplied by any other office."

5b. DISSEMINATION OF MARKET REPORTS IN WISCONSIN.

Writing from Waupaca, Wis., on October 3, W. H. Mosier describes the success with which he is meeting in the distribution of market news:

"Everything is going splendidly at the Waupaca field station at present. Have a mailing list of approximately 1,300 for the daily bulletin, and an extra list of 50 newspapers through the State to which we furnish our weekly review, released every Monday. This review is widely disseminated by mail, radio, and the newspapers, and we have received much favorable comment on same."

B. C. BOREE,  
Investigator in Market Surveys.



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK OCT. 1-6, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed and Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Philadelphia-Misc. R	1:36	2:19	43	16	17,562	510
New York - Misc. R	12:45	1:30	45	11	6,169	351
Washington - Misc.	1:11	1:56	45	10	2,545	--
Baltimore - Misc.	2:25	3:25	60	15	639	--
Atlanta - Misc.	12:42	1:54	72	13	5,017	--
Boston - Misc. M	1:34	3:03	89	15	3,925	175
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Pittsburgh - Misc.	12:44	1:00	16	11	2,565	49
St. Louis - Misc. Q	12:20	12:39	19	12	4,425	150
Cincinnati - Misc.	12:42	1:10	28	10	4,487	181
Minneapolis - Misc. R	12:33	1:02	29	18	6,900	132
Kansas City - Misc. Honey	12:00	12:35	35	14	5,000	350
Chicago - Misc.	11:41	12:19	38	18	7,500	4,400
Fort Worth - Misc.	1:02	1:45	43	18	1,832	--
Denver - Misc. R	1:59	3:34	95	15	8,499	--
Washington (Nat'l) BKMPOR Ship. Infr. P'nuts. Honey				104	38,701	1,057
TOTAL	12:57#	1:44#	47#	300	115,766	7,355
" previous week	12:48#	1:32#	44#	291	112,571	9,030

WESTERN OFFICES (Sept. 24-29)

Los Angeles - Misc.	4:19	5:11	52	12	11,710	--
San Francisco - Misc.	3:43	4:40	57	12	3,060	--
Salt Lake City - Misc.	4:56	6:23	87	10	1,173	--
Portland - LMP #5	5:07	6:43	96	17	8,430	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				9,527	4,068,085	215,366

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK OCT. 1 - 6, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Benton Harbor - BKMR	2:05	3:30	9,886	1,608	5	--
Grand Forks - R	1:14	1:43	1,534	246	3	--
Grand Junction - BPR	2:06	3:12	3,030	485	3	--
Idaho Falls - R	1:15	2:31	7,520	1,225	16	--
Martinsburg - B	2:56	4:07	3,693	434	--	4
Presque Isle - R	2:18	3:32	11,032	1,838	4	--
Rochester - BFMNPR	2:43	3:32	4,856	759	3	--
*Sacramento - KNP	4:30	5:15	7,150	1,192	3	--
Spokane - B	12:32	3:00	12,182	1,941	7	--
Waupaca - R	12:25	2:15	7,050	1,175	--	3
TOTAL	2:00#	3:17#	67,933	# Average time.		
" previous week	2:01#	3:13#	58,489	* Reports for Sept. 24-29.		
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			1,303,723			

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 5,587,174.

INSPECTION SERVICE
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1c. TENTATIVE U. S. GRADES FOR PEARS, USED IN OREGON.

Recent word from Charles A. Park, President of the State Board of Horticulture in Oregon, is to the effect that the Tentative U. S. Grades for Pears have been adopted and are now being used as the standard at shipping points in that State. Inspectors should familiarize themselves with these grades, as printed below:-

TENTATIVE U. S. GRADES FOR PEARS.Extra Fancy or U. S. No. 1

Extra Fancy or U. S. No. 1 shall consist of pears of one variety which are mature, clean, well formed, free from decay, bruises, limbrubs, spray-burn, sun-scald, hail marks, drouth spots, russeting, visible water-core, broken skins and from other damage caused by disease, insects or mechanical means, except that on varieties not characteristically russeted light russeting affecting an aggregate area of not more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch in diameter and russeting within the basin shall be permitted in this grade.

Fancy or U. S. No. 2

Fancy or U. S. No. 2 shall consist of pears of one variety which are mature, clean, fairly well formed, free from decay, bruises, spray-burn, visible watercore, broken skins and other damage caused by disease, insects or mechanical means, but limbrubs, sun-scald, hail marks, drouth spots and russeting where the injury is slight or scab spots affecting an aggregate area not more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch in diameter shall be permitted in this grade.

C Grade or U. S. No. 3

C Grade or U. S. No. 3 shall consist of pears of one variety which are mature and not badly misshapen and which are free from decay, soft bruises and from serious damage caused by disease, insects or mechanical or other means but scab spots affecting an aggregate area of not more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in diameter and small healed worm stings shall be permitted in this grade.

SIZE

The size of the pears in any box shall be plainly stamped or otherwise marked on the package in terms of numerical count or minimum size. "Minimum size" means the largest transverse diameter of the smallest pears permitted in the package taken at right angles to a line running from the stem to the blossom end. Minimum size shall be stated in terms of whole and quarter inches as 2",  $2\frac{1}{4}$ ", etc., in accordance with the facts. In order to allow for variations incident to proper sizing not more than 5%, by weight, of the pears in any package may be below the specified minimum size.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

As used in these grades:

1. "Mature" means having reached the stage of maturity which will insure the proper completion of the ripening process.
2. "Clean" means reasonably free from dust or dirt and free from excessive visible spray residue.
3. "Well formed" means having the shape characteristic of the variety.
4. "Free from damage" means that the pears shall not be injured to an extent apparent in the process of proper grading and handling.

(continued on next page)



TENTATIVE U. S. GRADES FOR PEARS (Cont'd)

5. "Fairly well formed" means that the pears may be of slightly abnormal shape.

6. "Slight injury" means that the injury has not materially affected the appearance. The following injuries shall be considered slight: (1) Limbrubs which are not soft and which affect not to exceed an aggregate area of 1/2 inch in diameter. (2) Sun-scald, if the normal color of the fruit is not materially changed or where an aggregate area of not more than one inch in diameter is discolored but without any softening of the flesh or blistering or cracking of the skin. (3) Drouth spots, which are only slightly discolored and depressed and where the aggregate area does not exceed 1/2 inch in diameter. (4) Hail marks, where the injury is superficial and does not affect an aggregate area of more than 1/2 inch in diameter and where the skin has not been broken or discolored. (5) Smooth russeting, where the injury is net-like where the affected area does not exceed an aggregate of 10% of the surface or russet which is heavy or bark-like such as is characteristic of frost injury where the aggregate area affected does not exceed 1/2 inch in diameter.

7. "Small healed worm stings" means stings showing a dark discoloration not larger than 1/8 inch in diameter exclusive of any encircling green ring and where the injury is superficial and the injured tissue is dry and corky.

8. "Badly misshapen" means that more than 1/4 of the surface is deformed.

9. "Free from serious damage" means that no defects shall be permitted which, taken singly or collectively, seriously deform or disfigure the fruit.

2c. IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION SERVICE.

Within the next day or two, every office will be furnished a supply of the 4-page circular, giving details of the Federal-State shipping-point inspection service. These circulars are to be distributed judiciously among all the patrons of the market inspection service in your territory, so that the extent and nature of the work at country shipping points is widely advertised.

Please see that a copy of the new circular is enclosed with certificates or copies of certificates mailed by your office during the next week or 10 days, taking care not to send a lot (or even several) of the circulars to one individual or firm. By keeping a check list of the patrons to whom you send the circular, unnecessary duplication can be avoided. Additional copies can be secured from Washington, if needed.

An omission unfortunately occurred on page 4. Inspection of Tennessee strawberries was not mentioned. To complete the list, you can add at bottom of page 4:

TENNESSEE:

Strawberries

W. C. Hackleman, Spring City

E. E. Conklin, Jr., Cleveland

3c. SHIPPING POINT INSPECTIONS DURING FISCAL YEAR 1923.

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1923, a total of 72,666 inspections was made at shipping points in the 22 States listed below:

<u>STATE OF ORIGIN</u>	<u>NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS</u>	<u>COMMODITIES</u>
California	17,778	Apples, Grapes, Cantaloupes, Bermuda Onions, Vegetables.
Colorado	24,815	Potatoes, Apples, Deciduous Fruit Vegetables.
Idaho	13,338	Potatoes, Apples
North Dakota	432	Potatoes
New York	905	Potatoes
South Carolina	1,091	Potatoes
Washington	8,917	Apples, Potatoes, Deciduous Fruit
Wisconsin	1,035	Potatoes, Cabbage
Montana	444	Potatoes
Utah	651	Peaches, Onions, Apples, Potatoes
South Dakota	308	Potatoes
West Virginia	39	Apples
Maine	384	Potatoes
Missouri	36	Potatoes
Massachusetts	67	Onions
Virginia	4	Apples
New Jersey	1,499	Potatoes, Apples, Peaches
Georgia*	45*	Peaches
Florida	162	Tomatoes
Oregon	387	Apples, Deciduous Fruits
Ohio	78	Onions
Tennessee	51	Strawberries
Total	72,666	

\* Georgia deal not completed June 30, 1923. Final total for Georgia was 330.

Of the 72,666 inspections made at shipping points during the past fiscal year, there were only 61 reinspections made at receiving markets, 27 of which sustained the original inspections.

The number of receiving-market inspections was 14,710 inspections of fruits and 13,459 of vegetables, making a total of 28,169 inspections.

4c. COLORADO AND OREGON GRADE PAMPHLETS DISTRIBUTED.

Copies of the following pamphlets have been mailed to all inspection offices: "Official Grades for the Standardization of Colorado Fruits and Vegetables, 1923."

"Standard Packing and Grading Rules of the Apple Growers Association, Hood River, Oregon, as adopted August 17, 1923."

H. W. SAMSON,  
Specialist in Standardization.



OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman did not return from Florida as soon as expected. He was at Lakeland on Wednesday and probably will not return to Washington before the end of this week. Mr. Bier also is still in Florida, making arrangements for shipping-point inspection services.

Mr. Robb expects to reach Salt Lake City by the end of this week, and then will come East via Denver.

Apple inspection work in the vicinity of Martinsburg, W. Va., has increased to such an extent that P. D. Rupert and F. E. Hooper, members of the recent training class in Chicago, have been sent to Martinsburg to assist with the inspections under Mr. Gardner's direction. Mr. Samson went from Washington last Saturday to confer with Mr. Gardner, spending the day at Martinsburg.

C. W. Hauck has returned to Washington after an eight-weeks' trip through important tomato-producing sections. He will assemble the data he secured on the proposed grades for canning-house tomatoes, and make definite recommendations in this matter in the near future. Because Washington is now his permanent headquarters, Mr. Hauck will make this his home.

R. C. Butner is spending the greater part of this week on a trip to potato shipping points in Nebraska, in company of V. V. Westgate, Supervising Inspector. Mr. Westgate reports that he himself can be reached regularly through the Omaha office or in care of the County Agent at Alliance, Nebr.

Semi-weekly market reports on artichokes have been started at San Francisco. Mr. Hansen will be furnished brief reports by a number of the large markets, and will distribute the information chiefly through newspapers. This service began Oct. 9.

Because of the celebration of Columbus Day as a local holiday, the following offices will be closed this Friday: Baltimore, New York, Boston, Columbus, Harrisburg, Lancaster, Trenton, Cincinnati, and St. Louis.

S. F. Shreve was called to South Carolina last week to testify in a court case involving an inspection he made in Baltimore some time ago. He has now returned to his headquarters.

Inspection work is progressing satisfactorily in Virginia, according to reports of F. Earl Parsons, who visited the Washington office yesterday.

John D. Snow will return to the Denver office this Saturday, after his recent tour through producing sections of Colorado. R. H. Lamb, who has been substituting for Mr. Snow, will then proceed to Kansas City, where he will relieve R. S. Lumbard, while the latter goes on vacation.

A request for the reinspection of a car which had been inspected at shipping point, made it necessary for W. E. Harrison to come from Baltimore last Saturday to assist W. E. Lewis, local Inspector, in this case. Mr. Harrison also conferred with Washington officials regarding his market news work in Baltimore.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Friends of N. U. Blanpied, who was formerly a cooperative Inspector at Harrisburg and who resigned from the service on August 15, will regret to learn of his untimely death at Coudersport, Pa., last Monday. Reports indicate that Mr. Blanpied was overcome by gas from a heater while asleep. He was connected with the Potter Cooperative Potato Association since he left our service.

R. R. Pailthorp was at Hood River and Portland, Oregon, last week arranging to secure information from leading shippers regarding the extent and causes of rejection of apple shipments.

H. C. Miller probably will complete the apple inspection work in Delaware by the end of next week. Certificates will have been issued on about 60 cars, but a large number of other inspections were made on which no certificates were issued because stock failed to meet grade requirements.

By October 7, G. E. Prince had reached Boise, Idaho, on his tour through the apple-producing sections of the Northwest. He reports the Idaho apple crop to be very clean and well-colored, and the largest crop they ever had in that district.

Word received from A. E. Mercker states that things were rather slow in Utah the last week of September, as rains interfered with the work at shipping points. The mountains were covered with snow, but frost had not yet been experienced in the lower valleys.

J. H. Hoover, in a letter of September 27, reported that 65 cars of potatoes had been inspected in South Dakota up to that time, but he expected the work to be much heavier during the remainder of the season.

J. H. Cain, formerly a clerk on the Crop Estimates staff at Atlanta, has been transferred to the roll of the Fruit and Vegetable Division, and will assist T. C. Curry with the work in the Atlanta office.

Mrs. Lillian Walsh, typist in Mr. Clay's section, is at present a patient at Sibley Hospital in this city. Mrs. Florence K. Bosworth has been given a temporary clerical appointment to assist with the work in Mr. Patton's section.

After five years' service on the force handling the daily shipment reports of fruits and vegetables in Washington, Miss Julia Collier has been transferred from Mr. Patton's section to Mrs. Mills' room, where she is assisting for the present with fiscal and personnel matters.

Phone numbers of the Cincinnati office are Main 4370 and 4871. These can be inserted on the recent list of Inspectors and their addresses, and on the Market Station Address List.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 41  
October 18, 1923.  
(Contents Confidential)

1a. PREPARATION OF EXPENSE ACCOUNTS UNDER COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT.

In future, field men operating under cooperative agreements whereby their subsistence expenses are paid by a State or other agency, are requested to incorporate in their expense accounts a statement showing the exact period during which subsistence was paid by the outside agency. It is believed that such a statement will greatly facilitate the auditing of expense accounts in the Accounting Section.

2a. LETTERING OF OFFICE DOORS.

Lettering upon doors of branch offices should be done by the use of black gummed letters secured from the Washington office, unless the management of the building requires a different style of lettering to conform with the style used by adjoining offices. Whenever black gummed letters are not satisfactory, recommendation for other letters should be addressed to the Washington office and authority secured before the work is done.

Rubber stamps should be ordered from Washington instead of being purchased locally. They are made in the Department's shops at a minimum cost and can be furnished promptly. If facsimile signatures are needed, a sample of the signature should be furnished on a separate sheet. All other local purchases of miscellaneous office supplies should be avoided, and all orders placed with the Washington office for everything needed as far as possible. Vouchers covering any local purchase not obviously justifiable must be accompanied by an explanatory statement.

3a. MAINE POTATO ARRIVALS IN BOSTON.

Mr. Evers writes as follows in a letter of October 16:

"Arrivals of Maine potatoes in Boston during the month of September exceeded all previous records. Over 1470 cars were reported by railroads as having arrived in Boston during the past month in comparison with approximately 500 cars the same month last year. Of the total arrivals, about one-fourth were reconsigned to other cities and the balance unloaded in Boston. However, much of the stock that is unloaded in Boston is not consumed or stored, but rather shipped to New York, Savannah, and other points along the coast, by boat. It is considered by local dealers that Boston's normal consumption of potatoes approximates 10 cars per day.

"Quality of the stock that has been arriving is very good. This fact is well brought out by the small number of inspections made during the month, the total being about fifteen cars. Prices this year compare favorably with those of last year. Maine Cobblers in Boston were \$2.25-2.35 per 100 lb. sack the first of September and low as \$1.60 the latter part. Last year the same month Cobblers ranged from \$1.10-1.50 per sack."

## TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.** Room 27, Mull Bldg.	918	C. E. Schultz	Pears* Peaches* Pl.&Pr.* Grapes	July 17 July 17 July 17 Aug. 6	Sept. 29* Sept. 29* Aug. 4* Nov. 1
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.** Chamber of Commerce	846	W. J. Bertush	Potatoes Pears * Peaches* Apples	Aug. 7 Aug. 15 Aug. 24 Sept. 20	Nov. 1 Oct. 4* Sept. 19* Nov. 1
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 28 Sept. 28	Oct. 31 Oct. 13* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 15 Jan. 15
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 17	Mar. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
MARTINSBURG, W. Va. Room 18, Court House	835	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 21	Nov. 1
GRAND FORKS, N. DAK. 206 Federal Bldg.	843	J. W. Park	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Mar. 1
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.**	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples Onions	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	Apr. 30 Nov. 15 Nov. 15

The following station closed on date indicated:

BENTON HARBOR, MICH.** B. H. State Bank Bldg.	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Peaches Grapes Apples Potatoes Onions	Sept. 6 Aug. 27 Aug. 27 Sept. 20 Sept. 20	<u>closed</u> Sept. 25 Oct. 17 Oct. 17 Oct. 17 Oct. 17
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\*Reports discontinued. \*\*State Dept. cooperating. R. H. Lamb, in Kansas City.



MARKET NEWS SERVICE.1b. F. O. B. AUCTION COMPANY IN CHICAGO.

Writing under date of October 10, W. H. Hall, of the Chicago office, describes the operation of the new F.O.B. Auction Company:

"I thought it might interest you to know that an f.o.b. auction, similar to the one in operation at Pittsburg, has been started at Chicago.

"The F.O.B. Auction Co. (Inc), held its first auction today, and, if the first sale may be regarded as a criterion, it looks like the venture will be a success. However, it seems likely that at least one-half of the large crowd was drawn there more from curiosity than from any desire to buy.

"The company's offices and auction room are located on the 4th floor of 108 W. Lake St. All cars sold must be covered by Government certificate of inspection, and sales are final upon the showing of that certificate. The terms of sale are cash at time of purchase, but reputable firms may arrange credit terms direct with the auction company. All sales are carlot sales of stock already rolling or f.o.b. cars at shipping points. Purchases must be made by buyers or seller through his accredited Chicago representative.

"Fifteen cars of apples and fourteen cars of grapes made up today's sales. The bidding was not brisk at first, due perhaps mainly to the newness of the venture, but as the sale progressed bidding became somewhat more active and the entire 29 cars catalogged were sold in a little less than one hour. Prices realized were slightly below the Chicago market, taking into consideration transportation charges."

2b. USE "POTATO" INSTEAD "WHITE POTATO"

The Official Record for September 5 includes recommendations by the Terminology Committee of the Department concerning the spelling and definitions of nearly 20 terms, regarding which there has been a lack of uniformity. It seems worth while to repeat the definitions for potato and sweet potato, which were approved by the Public Printer on September 21:

"Potato: The plant Solanum tuberosum or one of its esculent tubers, locally known as Irish, white, round, or common potato."

"Sweet Potato: The plant Ipomoea batatas or one of its fleshy esculent roots, erroneously known as 'yam' in some parts of the world."

In accordance with the ruling of the Public Printer, and in order that our reports may be in accord with other references to the potato in the Department, the word "Potato" will be sufficient and should be used in the heading of bulletins and in other places where we have previously used "White Potato."

3b. ADDITIONAL FIELD STATION SUMMARIES.

Additional summaries of field deals distributed this week are:

"Michigan Potato Deal, Season 1922-23," by R. H. Shoemaker, and  
"East Texas Tomato Deal, Season 1923," by W. H. Mosier.



- 3b ADDITION TO "GOB" (F.O.B. INFORMATION) PAGE OF CODE. (EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 25).  
On the "GOB" (f.o.b.) page of the code add:

\*#GOBEQ Cars rolled to storage.

Although we have \*#GOBOF, meaning stock going into storage, Mr. Brown calls attention to the fact that this term indicates stock going into storage at shipping points, direct from the farm and that some term is needed to take care of cars which are rolled to storage at other points. As indicated by the this phrase should always be preceded by some qualifying adjective, such as "some," "many," etc.

- 4b SPECIAL REVIEWS ISSUED AT MARKET STATIONS.

Under date of October 4, W. H. Hall issued a special review of the water melon season in Chicago. This is very comprehensive, including as it does a study of the price changes and of the unloads, as well as shipments from the sections usually supplying Chicago market.

O. D. Miller and S. W. Russell, of the New York office, are authors of a very complete review of the 1922-23 lettuce season in New York City. It covers western Iceberg lettuce, Florida stock, and North and South Carolina lettuce. Arrivals are shown by months and by originating States; shipments by States are given for the past five years, and daily jobbing prices are compared with the daily receipts in New York. The review was issued on October 15.

- 5b ONION SITUATION IN INDIANA.

Last week, George A. DeHaven, of the Chicago office, visited the onion-producing section of Indiana, and tells of this trip in a letter of October 15:

"The onion-growing district of Indiana is located in the north-central and northeastern part of the State, with the largest acreage probably in the vicinity of Columbia City and Warsaw.

"The yield this year runs from 250 to 400 bushels per acre, with an average of about 300 bushels. This is about 150 to 200 bushels lower than a normal yield. Many growers think that there will be about two-thirds of a normal crop. The thrips were quite bad this season and, with the wet weather in the earlier part of the season, the onions ripened early, and they are not as large as usual. However, the later crop is of better size.

"The Indiana Farm Bureau Onion Growers' Exchange was organized this year and about 20% of the crop will be marketed through the Exchange. All onions sold by the organization are Government-inspected and to date (October 13) 275 cars have been sold. The Exchange has members in seven counties, its members consisting principally of small growers. Every week there are new growers seeking admission.

"There is a considerable amount of the crop going into storage, most houses being filled to capacity at the present time. Many growers who are not in the Exchange sold their crop early in the season at a comparatively low price. Prices began to advance early in September and, by the middle of the month, had advanced to \$3.00 on yellows, but this resulted in heavy shipments to terminal markets and the FOB market reacted, dropping to \$2.65-2.90 by the middle of October.

"Growers are very well satisfied with prices realized this far, and feel optimistic regarding the future."



6b. CONDITIONS IN COLORADO AND NEBRASKA PRODUCING SECTIONS.

In a letter of October 13, John D. Snow, of the Denver office, tells of conditions as he found them on his recent trip to producing sections:

"You will probably be interested to hear of some of the arrangements I have made for securing f.o.b. potato information from the San Luis Valley, the Greeley District and from western Nebraska. I am also noting some of the conditions which I found in my recent trip to the above-named sections.

"On the whole, the trip was very successful from my standpoint but, because of constant rain, we were somewhat impeded in our progress by Ford thruout western Nebraska and, as no digging was in process, were unable to see very much of the stock as it came from the ground.

"The rain very materially held up digging in both the San Luis Valley and western Nebraska. About one-half of the San Luis Valley crop was dug when I was there on Thursday, Oct. 4. The crop there is slightly better than last year, as far as yield is concerned, averaging possibly 90 sacks of 115 lbs. each to the acre. I saw fields turning out 305 sacks of U. S. No. 1 Brown Beautys to the acre. Some growers and shippers think that the yield is no higher than last year (75-85 sacks per acre); but the inspectors in the valley are of the opinion that it is higher. One fact is certain; the stock is smooth and practically free from disease. The size is medium.

"The acreage is considerably less than last year's, possibly 8,000 fewer acres having been planted. The Red McClure acreage was increased and, while I have no accurate figures, it is estimated by shippers at 10% of the total. Shippers are estimating that a total of 3,800-5,000 cars of potatoes will be shipped from the Valley, and I believe that 4,500-5,000 is a fair estimate.

"From the San Luis Valley I went to Alliance and met Mr. Westgate and Mr. Sawyer. From there, we drove by automobile to the northern section, located around Hay Springs and Rushville. It rained continuously and digging was at a standstill. This northern section has already shipped about one-half of its crop, so I merely arranged for weekly mail reports from that section. In this northern section growers and shippers stated that the acreage had been cut 40% from last year's figures and that the crop had been greatly damaged by hail during the growing season. The Early Ohios were yielding from 50 to 160 bus. per acre, averaging about 60-65. The Bliss Triumphs were doing better and yielding an average of about 125 bus. per acre.

"From the northern section we drove to the Hemingford-Alliance District, or, the so-called Central Western Section. Most of the crop around Hemingford and Alliance is still in the ground and rains are holding up the digging. Very few cars have been shipped from this district. There has been but a slight reduction in the acreage in this central section, probably no reduction in the Triumphs acreage and possibly a slight reduction in the acreage of Early Ohios. About one-third of the acreage is planted to Early Ohios and two-thirds to Bliss Triumphs. There is considerable disease in the district but less than last year. Second growth is bad in the Ohios and Fusarium Wilt and Scab prevalent in both varieties. The size of the stock is running medium to large. Early Ohios are averaging 75-80 bus. per acre yield, and Bliss Triumphs 125 bushels.

( Continued on next page )



6b. CONDITIONS IN COLORADO AND NEBRASKA PRODUCING SECTIONS (CONTINUED).

"From the Central District we drove to the irrigated district around Morrill and Scottsbluff. The quality of the stock in this section is the best for years and the yield is very good, probably averaging 150 bus. per acre on both irrigated and dry land. Four-fifths of the acreage is planted to Triumphs and one-fifth to Russett Rurals. There are a few McClures and Pearls in the district. I doubt if 10% of the crop has moved from this district and there will probably be a movement of 1,500 cars.

"After leaving the irrigated section, we drove to a small section in the southern part of western Nebraska, centering around Kimball. This is both an irrigated and dry-land section, and ships practically all of its dry-land stock as seed. Yields in this section from the irrigated land were very low, but dry-land Bliss Triumphs were averaging 100 bus. to the acre. I did hear of sales on six cars of seed at Kimball, three of which were \$1.75 per 100 lbs., two at \$2, and one at \$2.50.

"Most of the acreage in the Greeley District is in White and Russett Rurals, with a limited acreage in Kings and Pearls. The quality of the stock is better than last year but nothing to brag about. The shippers and growers state that the yield is averaging about 90 sacks per acre. There has been a slight reduction in the acreage."

7b. FURTHER REPORT OF CONDITIONS IN WESTERN NEW YORK.

C. L. Brown, of the Rochester office, writes as follows in a letter of October 13:

"Practically all lines continue dull here and there is only a limited amount of f.o.b. buying at present. Grapes have sold fairly well and shippers have pushed the sales of 2-qt. Climax baskets in mixed cars quite successfully. Truckers have been busy buying grapes in the Penn Yan and Middlesex districts direct from growers at about the same prices for which cars will sell on wire orders, and have given shippers a tremendous competition, just as they did on peaches. Domestic cabbage has been moving largely to kraut mills and Danish is just starting nicely in Chenango, Madison, and Cortland counties, and a few cars have gone out of Ontario County, but so far I have only heard of two cars from west of Rochester. The price to growers is now \$15.00 but is expected to go to \$12.00-13.00 soon.

"It is very difficult to get any good line on pears and apples at present. It is certain that our estimate is still too high, as there are not over 4,000,000 barrels of apples in the commercial crop, or about 20,000 carloads. Most of the apples are moving in mixed cars and largely on consignment. Pear sales are hard to find as shippers have consigned, from necessity, the last of the Bartletts and Seckels, and the Kieffers are going the same way or to storage or export. There is an exceedingly heavy export movement of Kieffers and, even though the quality is fine, I fear that our shippers will take a big trimming in British markets, as they are overdoing it. Some early export sales of Kieffers were made at \$5.00 per barrel, but some were made this week at \$3.50 for stock two inches and up. The price to growers has dropped from 2¢ per pound to 1¢ per pound.

"Did I tell you that the Special Shipment Report is being broadcasted from station WHAM at 6:50 p.m. on 360 meters?"



8b. PRICES OF WESTERN RURAL POTATOES IN CHICAGO.

W. H. Hall, in a letter of October 15, explains why western Rurals usually bring high prices on the Chicago potato market:

"The principal reason why Idaho Rurals bring a premium in midwestern markets this season over round white stock from other States is because of superior quality and grading. As a general rule this stock is brighter, has fewer defects and is more uniform in size and shape. The usual premium paid for Idaho Rurals in Chicago carlot market is around 25¢ per 100 pounds, but this varies somewhat with the supply. When there are only a few cars of this stock, the premium may be as high as 50¢.

"On the other hand, there have been times when supplies were so heavy that prices were forced down almost to a level with those for <sup>Minnesota</sup> Wisconsin, and Michigan round whites. There is a certain class of trade that demands Idaho Rurals and will pay a premium for them, but when this trade is supplied it is necessary to reduce prices in order to move the over supply, as there is not enough difference in quality to warrant a difference of more than 15 to 25¢."

B. C. BOREE,  
Investigator in Market Surveys.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK OCT. 8 - 13, INC. (REDUCTED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number			
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed Posted Delivered	
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>							
New York - Misc.	R	12:54	1:29	35	9	5,120	1,584
Philadelphia-Misc.	R	2:04	2:45	41	19	15,903	455
Washington - Misc.		1:07	1:58	51	10	2,595	--
Atlanta - Misc.	Q	1:00	2:06	60	12	4,976	--
Baltimore - Misc.		2:22	3:22	60	12	528	--
Boston - Misc.	M	1:35	3:00	85	12	3,240	185
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>							
Kansas City- Misc.		12:37	12:44	7	12	3,300	125
St. Louis - Misc.	Q	12:28	12:44	16	9	3,405	235
Chicago - Misc.		11:36	11:58	22	19	7,500	3,900
Pittsburgh - Misc.		12:57	1:25	28	11	1,983	49
Minneapolis- Misc.	R	12:23	12:56	33	18	9,426	402
Cincinnati- Misc.	Q	12:25	12:56	31	8	2,845	181
Fort Worth - Misc.		1:30	2:25	55	11	1,841	306
Denver - Misc.	R	1:19	2:16	57	10	8,122	--
Washington(Nat'l)BFKLNPR P'nuts, Ship. Infm.				99		36,988	1,118
TOTAL		1:01#	1:43#	42#	271	107,872	8,540
" previous week		12:57#	1:44#	47#	300	115,766	7,355
<u>WESTERN OFFICE (Oct. 1-6)</u>							
San Francisco-Misc. BLMR		3:47	4:53	66	23	3,085	--
Los Angeles - Misc.		3:57	4:55	58	12	11,660	--
Salt Lake City-Misc.		3:52	5:03	71	9	1,215	--
Portland - BLMR		2:46	5:24	158	15	7,350	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date					9,857	4,199,267	223,906
RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK OCT. 8 - 13, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)							

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK OCT. 8 - 13, INC. (REDUCTED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing Lis Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Benton Harbor- BLMR	1:34	3:07	10,174	1,658	3	--
Grand Forks - R	1:06	1:37	1,651	268	9	--
Grand Junction - BR	2:12	3:29	3,060	490	1	--
Idaho Falls - R	1:28	2:46	7,750	1,260	3	--
Martinsburg - B	2:41	3:38	3,548	510	18	--
Presque Isle - R	2:03	3:11	11,290	1,880	2	--
Rochester - Misc.	2:38	3:30	5,291	804	6	--
*Sacramento - K	4:17	5:17	6,420	1,070	--	1
Spokane - B	12:30	2:54	12,830	2,073	7	--
Waupaca - R	11:56	2:02	6,567	1,094	--	7
TOTAL	1:47	3:09	68,581	# Average time		
" previous week	2:00	3:17	67,933	* Reports for Oct. 1-6.		
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			1,372,304			

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 5,795,477.



INSPECTION SERVICE
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1c. APPLE INSPECTIONS IN WISCONSIN.

In addition to other products previously reported as being inspected in Wisconsin, F. J. Baehler, in a letter of October 8, tells of the apple inspection work:

"During the past week, I spent two days in the Door County Apple district. Inspections are being made at Sturgeon Bay and Ellison Bay. Shipments from the last-mentioned point are transported by steamer across the Bay, as the railroad does not extend beyond Sturgeon Bay. We have two inspectors working in the district and are inspecting all carlot shipments. The greater portion of the crop is handled by the Sturgeon Bay Fruit Growers' Union. Mr. D. E. Bingham, whose shipments we are also inspecting, is selling independently. The quality of the stock is generally good. One large grower informed me that some blocks in his orchard ran about 95% to A and B grades, leaving only a small amount of culls. The Growers' Union has installed a dehydrating plant this fall and in that way make use of the lower quality stock. This year they have commenced a new departure, -packing in boxes. This has been started as a trial measure, and if their boxed stock meets with favorable reception in the markets, they will pack in boxes upon a larger scale next year. At present, only McIntosh Reds are being boxed under the Wisconsin boxed-apple grades, which were promulgated this season. The quality is exceptionally fine. The shippers have not loaded out any boxes at present, all being placed in cold storage. Up to date, about 100 carlots have been inspected. The packing season will continue for about a week or ten days longer, and I expect that we will make around 200 inspections."

H. W. SAMSON,

Specialist in Standardization.

## INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1923

MARKETS	Total Fruits C/L & L.C.L.	Total Vege- tables C/L & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total same Month 1922	Inspection for Car- riers	Declin- ed for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certifi- cate Copy Fees
Atlanta	22	31	53	69	5	3	\$ 172	\$ 25.00	\$ 10
Baltimore	9	15	24	60	2	0	84	7.50	0
Boston	26	28	54	69	11	1	208	5.00	0
Buffalo	23	11	34	11	1	0	136	0	1
Chicago	117	76	193	202	12	1	736	15.00	23
Cincinnati	38	26	64	80	1	1	252	2.50	6
Cleveland	29	28	57	76	13	0	220	2.50	17
Columbus	23	10	33	25	17	0	132	0	0
Denver	2	8	10	5	0	0	40	0	0
Detroit	40	30	70	46	9	0	272	2.50	19
Erie	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Harrisburg	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Indianapolis	15	15	30	37	0	0	120	0	2
Kansas City	32	13	45	80	6	0	152	15.00	1
Memphis	20	17	37	35	11	0	148	0	20
Milwaukee	15	2	17	105	3	0	64	2.50	0
Minneapolis	24	15	39	63	0	0	136	2.50	0
New Haven	33	14	47	0	0	1	172	10.00	0
New Orleans	35	88	123	107	74	0	464	17.50	20
New York	178	45	223	258	12	333	788	65.00	4
Norfolk	25	18	43	35	11	0	164	5.00	7
Omaha	21	3	24	17	5	0	68	7.50	0
Philadelphia	12	24	36	205	8	0	120	12.50	4
Pittsburgh	62	52	114	99	20	0	448	5.00	5
Portland	6	5	11	0	0	0	36	5.00	0
St. Louis	47	78	125	163	56	0	488	5.00	29
Washington	20	11	31	75	18	0	112	7.50	21
Wilkes-Barre	7	4	11	16	1	1	44	0	2
TOTAL	881	667	1548	1944	296	341	\$5776	\$220.00	\$199

## RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections.....	881	Inspections for Carriers	296
TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections	667	Declined for lack of time	341
Grand Total C/L and L.C.L. Inspections	1548	Total Fees Assessed	\$6246.00

The Total Fees Assessed include \$15.00 for inspection of mixed cars, and \$36.00 for reinspection fees.



## INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING SEPTEMBER, 1923

Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps	Total Number of Inspection s	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS									
		Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED		"Cuts" made to comply with spec- ifications		Items billed short weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	M	N	M
BOSTON	235		149590		1606		151196	554		0	
	15		6311		0		6311		0		0
NEW YORK	546		427879		38458		466337	615		0	
	41		177304		0		177304		0		0
NORFOLK	2		56320		8448		64768	0		0	
	-		-		-		-		-		-
PHILADELPHIA	229		187963		6175		194138	1546		0	
	22		16930		216		17146	87			0
SAN DIEGO	***		523877		3905		527782	501		7	
	76		72831		65		72896	0			0
SAN PEDRO	***		599511		30188		629699	0		0	
	-		-		-		-		-		-
TOTALS	1012		1945140		88780		2033920	3216		7	
	154		273376		281		273657				0

\*\*\* No record of number of inspections.

The San Pedro office inspected, in addition to the fruits and vegetables given above, the following amounts of bread and butter: Bread, 19,481 lbs., Butter, 15,764 lbs.

In addition to the above, the New York office inspected four cars of potatoes on Pier 29, North River, for the Navy; all were rejected as not meeting Navy specifications. This office also inspected 246,215 lbs. fruit and 378,476 lbs. vegetables for the United States Lines. Of a total of 624,691 lbs. inspected, 2,699 lbs. were rejected. Inspections for the Munson Steamship Line included 31,981 lbs. fruit and 96,063 lbs. vegetables, all of which were accepted.

The Norfolk office made 26 inspections for the Laid-up Fleet of the Shipping Board, amounting to 65,640 lbs., 1,500 lbs. of which were rejected and 2,400 lbs. cut to meet specifications. One item was billed short-weight.

OFFICE NOTES:

Merritt W. Baker, of New York State, has been appointed as an Assistant Marketing Specialist, and will report for inspection training in Chicago at an early date. Mr. Baker is a graduate of the Lottsville, Pa., High School and of the Edinboro (Pa.) State Normal School. He has taken special courses in the transportation and marketing of agricultural products, and has given particular attention to the production and marketing of potatoes. For five years, Mr. Baker was a teacher in high schools of Pittsburgh and adjacent territory. Since 1918, he has been engaged in practical farming on an extensive scale, devoting most of his attention to potatoes, apples and cabbage.

Mr. Sherman returned from his southern trip a few days ago. Prospects seem bright for considerable shipping-point inspection work in Florida this season. Citrus fruit may be inspected to the extent of 6,000 cars, and about half the celery tonnage may come under Federal-State inspection. Mr. Sherman reports that a new organization of growers now controls most of the celery acreage. Robert Bior is still in Florida, making further arrangements for this inspection service.

After a trip of more than seven weeks' duration, H. A. Spilman is again at his desk in Washington. He visited package factories in the North Central States and found a very general and cordial compliance with the regulations of the U. S. Standard Container Act. Last week he delivered an address before the convention of the National Association of Basket and Fruit Package manufacturers in session in Chicago.

H. V. DeMott also was a home-comer this week. As auditor for the Domestic Wool Section, he attended the hearing of a court case in Montana and then visited a number of wool dealers in middle-western States.

In order to secure necessary data on 1918 wool transactions from the Quartermaster's records in Boston, W. L. Evans spent last Saturday in that city. Several excess wool profits cases are scheduled for trial within the next two weeks.

Having completed the apple inspection work in Delaware, H. C. Miller, supervisor, has now returned to his headquarters in New York City.

Miss Dorothy E. Sheehan, clerk-typist in Mrs. Mill's office for the past two years, transferred last Saturday to the Boston office. She will serve there in the capacity of joint clerk, under the direction of the chairman of the operating committee, C. L. Pier.

A wire from the Kansas City office brings the regrettable news that R. S. Lumbard has been stricken with appendicitis and was obliged to go to a local hospital for an operation. This will make it necessary for R. H. Lamb to continue in charge of the market reporting work in that city for several weeks.



OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

A note on the f.o.b. wire from Martinsburg this morning is to the effect that unofficial reports show 200,000 barrels and 210,000 boxes of apples exported from all American ports during the week ending October 13. The export movement of apples is especially heavy this season.

CORRECTION: In the record of shipping-point inspections, published on page 456 of last week's Division Letter, the total for the past fiscal year should have been 72,466 instead of 72,666. Please correct this figure (72,666) at the three places in which it occurs.

After two year's in the Food Products Inspection Service, Mr. E. Lewis has been transferred to Mr. Samson's project, where he will assist with grading and standardization work. In all probability, Mr. Lewis will be sent to north-western Ohio to handle the shipping-point inspection of a number of onions next week. He will leave Washington Sunday night for Ohio to study/onion grading. He will inspect and certify shipments originating at Lockwood.

Ober G. Strauss has reported for temporary duty in the Washington office of the Inspection service. Apple inspections have been discontinued at Rome and Ensee, Ohio, and a local inspector will issue the certificates on the remaining carloads to be inspected at Gallipolis.

After this week, P. D. Rupert will be in charge of the apple inspection work around Martinsburg, W. Va. J. J. Gardner, who has been directing these operations, will resume charge of the Pittsburgh inspection office next Monday. M. L. Henry, who has been substituting for Mr. Gardner in Pittsburgh, will then return to New York. F. E. Hooper also will go from Martinsburg to New York, in which latter city there is a rush of inspection work, particularly of apples for export.

More recent word from Mr. Robb indicates that he will not reach Salt Lake City until Friday of this week. He is stopping at Idaho Falls en route.

H. T. Longino advises that the telephone number at the Houston office is Preston 5415. His residence address and phone number are 1108 San Jacinto St., phone Preston 7036. Please insert these data on your list of Inspectors.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 42  
October 25, 1923.  
(Contents Confidential)

1a. PURCHASE OF TIRES AND TUBES.

According to advice just received from the General Supply Committee, tires and tubes which may be needed, in addition to those included in quarterly estimates, must not be purchased locally but must be ordered through Washington by separate requisition on the contractors.

2a. PAYMENT OF TAX ON GASOLINE FOR OFFICIAL USE.

A statement has been received from the Solicitor's Office, indicating the States whose laws impose a tax on gasoline, the character of such tax, and whether or not the United States is liable for the payment thereof.

Arizona, Indiana, New Mexico, Oregon, Pennsylvania, and South Dakota exempt the Government from payment of the tax. Employees paying the tax in these States will not be reimbursed. In all other States, employees are authorized to pay the tax when included in the sale price of gasoline.

Copies of the Solicitor's statement have been sent to all branch offices using automobiles for official travel.

3a. FLORIDA AVOCADOS SHIPPED TO CALIFORNIA.

The following letter was recently received from H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office:

"The local office of Levy Zentner Company received on the 11th of this month a straight car of avocados from Florida, avocados being one of the few fruits produced in Florida that are not embargoed in this State. We have for some time received small express shipments of this fruit from Florida but this is the first that a straight carload has ever come in. They were not all unloaded here, however, as part of the car was reshipped to the other coast cities.

"These avocados were of a green-skin variety and ranged in size from medium to large. They sold readily at 35-40¢ per pound. They were packed in excelsior in the usual crate."

4a. OUR DIVISION LETTER.

A representative of the F. & V. Division, who has recently been visiting a large number of branch offices, included the following statement in one of his letters to Washington:

"Incidentally, I find that the Division Letter is filling a very large and interesting place in the work of our offices. Its receipt is looked forward to with a great deal of interest, and I think no radical change in the paper is necessary."

Let it be remembered that the editor of the D.L. desires constructive criticisms at all times. This is your paper, and its contents depend to a great extent on the material received from the field. Do not hesitate to suggest changes and improvements; all ideas will be given careful consideration.

## TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.** Room 27, Mull Bldg.	918	C. E. Schultz	Pears* Peaches* Pl.&Pr.* Grapes	July 17 July 17 July 17 Aug. 6	Sept. 29* Sept. 29* Aug. 4* Nov. 10
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.** Chamber of Commerce	846	W. J. Bertush	Potatoes Pears* Peaches* Apples	Aug. 7 Aug. 15 Aug. 24 Sept. 20	Nov. 1 Oct. 4* Sept. 19* Nov. 1
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions Celery	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 28 Sept. 28 Oct. 15	Oct. 31 Oct. 13* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 15 Jan. 15 Dec. 1
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 17	Mar. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
MARTINSBURG, W. VA. Room 18, Court House	835	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 21	Oct. 31
GRAND FORKS, N. D. 206 Federal Bldg.	843	J. W. Park	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Mar. 1
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples Onions	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	Apr. 30 Nov. 15 Nov. 15

\*Reports discontinued. R. H. Lamb, in Kansas City.

\*\*State Dept. cooperati



## MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. GRAPE AUCTION REPORTS.

Beginning November 1 and continuing during the remainder of the time grape auction reports will be needed, please make the following change: Discontinue reporting price ranges and quote average prices only. Send these average prices in English. Mr. Schultz is leaving Sacramento November 1 to enter the Food Products Inspection training class, which starts in Chicago November 5. Inasmuch as the grape service from Sacramento should be continued until about November 10, we are making the above change in the handling of these grape auction reports, so that the issuance of grape reports there may be handled by the Sacramento telegrapher and the clerk for the balance of the time needed.

2b. CELERY FROM NORTHERN CALIFORNIA.

On October 18, C. E. Schultz, of the Sacramento office, wrote the following letter to C. L. Brown, of Rochester:

"I have not been in contact with operators in California celery except the American Fruit Growers, who have an office at Sacramento. It has been impossible for me to make any personal observations and, consequently, all that I can report will be 'second hand' information.

"Mr. Kauffman, Agricultural Statistician in California, states that his office has not made an estimate of the acreage, but unofficial figures, as they appeared in a recent issue of The Packer, place this year's plantings in Northern California at 4,172 acres, as against 4,256 acres last year.

"Generally cooler than normal temperature prevailed last summer and this, it is said, aided in the production of a celery crop above the average of the past few seasons in quality. Mr. Rogers, of the State Inspection Service, says that the quality is better than he has observed for a number of years. Although the acreage is slightly less, the yield this season will probably be about the same as, if not a little more than, last year, because of the favorable growing conditions.

"The celery movement from Northern California is scheduled to start around the present time and Mr. Woodin, of the American Fruit Growers, is authority for the statement that at least 175 cars of California stock should be on the eastern markets by Thanksgiving. I have not secured any data on prices."

B. C. BOREE,  
Investigator in Market Surveys.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK OCT. 15-20, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number			
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed Posted Delivered	
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>							
New York - Misc.	R	12:49	1:28	39	11	6,400	383
Baltimore- Misc.		1:41	2:41	60	19	676	--
Washington - Misc.		12:42	2:00	78	10	2,550	--
Philadelphia-Misc.	R	1:29	2:49	80	18	17,750	510
Boston - Misc.	M	1:38	3:06	88	15	4,300	180
Atlanta - Misc.	Q	12:07	1:52	105	13	5,107	--
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>							
St. Louis - Misc.	Q	12:23	12:38	15	12	4,425	--
Chicago - Misc.		11:57	12:18	21	20	7,700	4,000
Fort Worth- Misc.		12:56	1:27	31	12	1,746	309
Minneapolis- Misc.	R	12:33	1:04	31	20	10,223	132
Cincinnati - Misc.	Q	12:27	12:59	32	10	4,605	181
Kansas City- Misc.Honey		12:14	12:48	34	10	5,365	670
Pittsburgh - Misc.		12:30	1:34	64	11	2,627	49
Denver - Misc.	R	12:38	3:35	177	10	11,115	--
Washington(Nat'l)BFMKPOR P'nuts, Ship. Infm. Honey				96		33,549	1,123
TOTAL		12:43#	1:44#	61#	287	118,138	7,537
" previous week		1:01#	1:43#	42#	271	115,766	7,355
<u>WESTERN OFFICES (OCT.8-13)</u>							
Los Angeles -Misc.	R	3:51	4:43	52	16	10,914	--
San Francisco -Misc.BMR		4:35	5:30	55	21	14,010	--
Salt Lake City-Misc.		3:39	5:22	103	9	1,277	--
Portland- Misc.BLMR		3:55	5:45	110	15	6,140	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				10,205		4,349,746	231,443

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK OCT. 15-20, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Benton Harbor -	BKMR	1:41	3:00	5,097	1,654	--	--
Grand Forks -	R	12:29	1:08	1,774	289	8	--
Grand Junction -	BR	1:59	3:05	3,060	495	1	--
Idaho Falls -	R	1:32	2:55	8,400	1,400	11	--
Martinsburg -	B	2:14	3:38	3,579	560	12	--
Presque Isle -	R	2:12	3:21	11,422	1,904	1	--
Rochester -	BFHMPR	2:38	3:44	5,456	865	8	--
*Sacramento -	K	3:36	4:13	6,720	1,120	5	--
Spokane -	B	2:14	4:30	13,158	2,100	1	--
Waupaca -	R	11:46	2:04	7,080	1,180	8	--
TOTAL		1:50#	3:10#	65,746	# Average time.		
" previous week		1:47#	3:09#	68,581	* Reports for Oct. 8-13		
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				1,438,050			

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 6,019,239



## INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. FIELD FROST IN WESTERN POTATOES.

In a wire of October 23 from Monte Vista, Mr. Robb cautions all Inspectors as follows:

"IDAHO AND COLORADO POTATOES SHOWING CONSIDERABLE FIELD FROST AS RESULT OF TEMPERATURES FROM THIRTEEN TO TWENTY DEGREES. MANY POTATOES NOT DUG. ADVISE INSPECTORS IN RECEIVING MARKETS TO USE CARE IN ALL POTATO INSPECTIONS."

2c. POTATO INSPECTIONS IN OREGON.

In a letter of October 17, R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, tells about the cooperative inspection work in Oregon:

"The cooperative work with the State is making fine headway and I find it most interesting. Oregon has never graded its potatoes properly, and it is a matter of education. Of the first eight cars we inspected, only three were entitled to a No. 1 certificate. Of the five off-grade, three were reconditioned and got a clean bill, but the other two went out 'failing to meet the requirements.' All the cars since then have met No. 1 grade specifications, largely because we were able to give the shippers some practical demonstrations before they made up their cars. The movement now is mostly Garnet seed going to California, although there has been some long white table stock."

3c. SHIPPING-POINT WORK IN SOUTH DAKOTA.

Arrangements have been made whereby J. H. Hoover, in charge of the potato inspections in South Dakota, will attend the potato show at Lawrence, Kans., on November 9. Regarding the local work he writes:

"It is going to be possible to close the service in South Dakota earlier than last year, and I do not believe that it will be necessary for me to return here after I go to Lawrence in November. Some of the inspectors have been very busy during the last two weeks, and we have handled 310 cars of potatoes to date. More than half of these inspections were made in the last two weeks. We have had quite severe temperatures the last three or four nights. Quite a percentage of the crop is still in the ground and there will be some field frost in many shipments from now on. Market conditions are so bad that many of the growers are inclined to leave their crop in the ground and, if present conditions continue, I do not think there will be enough demand for the service to continue it after the first week of November."

3½c. "COALS TO NEWCASTLE."

The following report from C. L. Brown, of the Rochester office, was received too late for better classification in this issue of the D.L.:

"You might be interested to know that two cars of Virginia York Imperials arrived in Rochester, to be sold for local consumption. We often have cars of western boxed apples shipped in here, but this is the first case I know of where Virginia stock has been sent to this market, when there is a large supply of home-grown fruit available."



4c. SHIPPING-POINT CONDITIONS IN UTAH.

In a letter of October 20, from Salt Lake City, A. E. Mercker tells of the inspection work on Utah onions, apples and lettuce:

"The movement and inspection of onions and apples this past week was quite brisk, although the bad break in the price of apples the latter part of the week slackened the shipments of that commodity.

"The movement of onions started last week when the weather began to clear, and by last Monday movement was well under way. The onions are of good size and the growers did not have any difficulty in getting their stock to meet the size requirements of U. S. No. 1 large. Our chief difficulty was splits, doubles, and neck rot, and a large number of loads were turned back at the car door chiefly on account of splits and neck rot. Some fields lost as high as 50% to 75% of their crop account of decay, and a suprisingly large number of growers could not identify the decay until shown by our inspectors. The onions are generally clean and mostly bright, although many are rain-stained. When inspected at the car doors the skins of many onions would peel off, due to this extra handling, and undoubtedly by the time the shipments reach the terminal markets a good number of peeled onions will be found although the stock is well cured and dry when it leaves here. Spanish type onions are about the only ones grown.

"Apples are being shipped in bulk or in bushel baskets. In a few instances they are shipped in uncovered boxes. About the only grading that is being done is the elimination of the culls and wormy fruit, and the product is shipped as 'Orchard Run' or 'Combination Extra Fancy, Fancy and C grade.'

"The movement of lettuce has begun in a small way and Utah probably will ship about 50 cars. The Morgan County stock, handled by Sawdey & Hunt, is running from 3 to 4 dozen heads per crate. The formation of the heads is fairly firm to soft, and some of the lettuce shows slime following marginal browning of the wrapper leaves. Some of these heads escape the packers' attention and are packed in the crates. Weber County is sending out the best stock; the heads are fairly firm to hard, mostly firm, and generally free from marginal browning and other defects. This stock is handled by the Federated, and the Growers' Assn. are amateurs at the game and not putting up as nice a pack as the other shippers, although I spent a little time educating them and trying to have them get out a better pack. The C.V.U. is operating in Davis County and they are having the same trouble as is found in Morgan County. The lettuce in Utah County will be handled by Denny & Co., who expect to move some cars next week."

ROBERT BIER,  
Supervising Inspector.



OFFICE NOTES:

Having returned from Florida, Robert Bier advises that there is a possibility (though not yet a certainty) of inspecting 10,000 carloads of citrus fruit in that State this season, and 3,000 cars of celery. Growers and shippers of tomatoes on the East Coast are asking about the prospects for inspection of their product, and this week representatives of the Hastings Potato Growers' Assn. visited Washington to confer regarding the possible inspection of 1,800 carloads of potatoes. Other products in Florida also may be included in the shipping-point inspection program this winter and spring. Tentative grades for citrus fruit probably will be ready by November 1. It is likely that Mr. Bier will make another short trip to Florida early in November, to consummate arrangements for this work.

Mr. Roob's latest wire was sent from Monte Vista, Colo., on October 23. He expected to drive to Denver on Wednesday, and leave that night for Kansas City. He is due in Washington not later than Wednesday of next week.

Stopping in Minneapolis yesterday and today, Waupaca Friday, Madison Saturday, and Chicago next Monday and Tuesday, Mr. Stillwell also is expected back at his desk in Washington by November 1.

Karl S. Branch, of Nebraska, has been appointed as an Assistant Marketing Specialist, and has reported for inspection training at Chicago. Mr. Branch completed his high school work at Kansas City, Mo., and then took a traffic course through the La Salle Extension University. He was in the merchant marine service as seaman from 1903 to 1907. The next two or three years, Mr. Branch was in the employ of the American Express Co. at Omaha, and since 1910 has been actively engaged as an inspector of fruits and vegetables, working successively for three large wholesale produce firms in Omaha.

Another Assistant Marketing Specialist to receive appointment is John LaGrue, of New York. He also will report for duty in the Chicago inspection office at an early date. Mr. LaGrue attended high school in New York City, and was graduated from the Chief Preparatory School in the metropolis. In addition to correspondence courses, Mr. LaGrue has worked as salesman, as inspector and as buyer for New York produce firms during the period 1896 to 1916. The past seven years, he has been employed by one of the leading exporters, inspecting all car lots of fruits and vegetables purchased by this firm for shipment to Cuba and Porto Rico.

Carl A. Weilbrenner, of Indiana, is the third man whose appointment has been consummated this week as an Assistant Marketing Specialist. He, too, will become a member of the new training class for inspectors in Chicago. Mr. Weilbrenner is a graduate of the Mt. Vernon, Ind., high school, and in 1900 completed a course at the Walker Commercial School. From 1905 to 1916, he was employed as manager of the Weilbrenner and Son fruit and produce business in Mt. Vernon. Since 1916, Mr. Weilbrenner has been associated with the Hillcrest Orchard Co, in that city. He has had an extensive experience in the growing and marketing of fruits and vegetables.



OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

The new training class for inspectors, to start in Chicago on November 5, will be composed of five members of the Inspection Service and six Market News men, as follows:

H. F. Larson, Los Angeles	W. J. Bertush, Chicago office
Merritt W. Baker )	V. D. Callanan, Washington
Karl S. Branch ) new ap-	J. D. Evers, Boston
John LaGrua ) pointees	R. H. Lamb, Cincinnati
Carl A. Weilbrenner)	C. E. Schultz, Sacramento
	J. G. Scott, Philadelphia

Mr. Larson, who is a cooperative Inspector, with headquarters in Los Angeles, will come east next week to join the Chicago training class.

W. J. Bertush will complete his period of service at the Grand Junction, Colo., field station about November 1 or 2. After the close of that station, he will return to his headquarters at Chicago to take the Inspector's training.

V. D. Callanan expects to leave Washington on November 3 and take the Inspector's training in Chicago. He has been assisting in the local office for the past month.

After closing the Martinsburg, W. Va., field station on October 31, F. H. Scruggs will proceed to Boston, where he will relieve J. D. Evers while the latter attends the Chicago training class.

Mr. Lumbard's attack of appendicitis was a very serious one, and it will be several weeks before he has sufficiently recovered from his operation to resume charge of the market reporting work in Kansas City. Since R. H. Lamb, who has been substituting for Mr. Lumbard, will soon have to leave for Chicago, George A. DeHaven, of the Chicago office, will proceed to Kansas City and handle the market reports until Mr. Lumbard's return.

C. E. Schultz will leave Sacramento, Calif., about the middle of next week. Market reports on grapes will be continued, however, until about November 10, this service being handled the last two weeks by the telegraph operator and the clerk who have been assisting Mr. Schultz. No f. o. b. report will be sent from Sacramento after Mr. Schultz' departure.

Stuart D. Main, who has been helping in the market news section in Washington since his appointment a month ago, will go to Philadelphia on October 31, to substitute for Joseph G. Scott, while the latter takes the Inspector's training in Chicago.

VALLEJO, CALIF., will be a new base for Navy inspection work. S. H. Fountain, who has been inspecting onions in the vicinity of Auburn, Ind., will leave there next Sunday and proceed to Vallejo, where he will be in charge of this new work for the Navy and Marine Corps. Vallejo is just north of San Francisco, on San Pablo Bay, and Mr. Fountain's inspections will be made largely in behalf of the forces stationed on Mare Island.



OFFICE NOTES. (Continued):

W. C. Hangstafer, of the Philadelphia inspection office, has been transferred to New York as a permanent member of the staff of Inspectors in that city. G. R. Warren also recently spent a few days in New York, helping with local inspections, but has now returned to Philadelphia.

R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, is at Monroe, Oregon, today, where he will give an informal talk on potato grading at the annual potato show.

The cooperative market reports on grapes, which have been issued this season from the Buffalo office of the New York Dept. of Farms and Markets, were recently discontinued because the grape season is drawing to a close.

According to information obtained by F. H. Scruggs, at Martinsburg, W. Va. total exports of apples from all American ports during the week ending October 20 were 155,000 bbls. and 177,000 boxes.

Miss Grace Robinson has returned from her five-weeks' vacation, spent chiefly in Idaho. Her westward trip was made via the Canadian route. Miss Robinson visited our Chicago office on her return trip.

After more than two years' service in Mr. Fiske's section, Miss Margaret Gachet has resigned, effective November 12. Her immediate office associates tendered Miss Gachet a farewell luncheon yesterday, in honor of her coming marriage.

Word received from W. E. Lewis, who recently went to Ohio to handle onion inspection work, indicates that he has a request to inspect 25 carloads of onions in a warehouse at Alger.

H. V. DeMott, of the Domestic Wool Section, is in Boston this week, examining wool records in the Quarter Master's office and the records of certain dealers in that city, in connection with pending excess wool profits cases. He stopped at New York on Sunday to confer with Admer D. Miller, formerly in charge of the Wool Section.

Leaving Washington tonight, W. L. Evans will go to Philadelphia to attend the arguments on demurrers filed by three wool dealers, from whom the Government is endeavoring to collect excess profits made on 1918 wool clip. J. S. Bohannon, of the Solicitor's Office, also has gone to Philadelphia to render legal assistance to the U. S. Attorney in these cases.

A new clerk-typist in Mr. Patton's section is Miss Blanche Ridgeway, recently transferred from the Veterans' Bureau in Chicago. Mrs. Rose A. Doty, of California, also has been given a clerical appointment in the F. & V. Division.

Having served in the Domestic Wool Section for about six months, Paul M. Niebell has been transferred to Mrs. Mill's office, where he is helping with work relating to fiscal matters and personnel.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

For the fourth consecutive year, Prof. J. W. Lloyd, Chief in Olericulture, University of Illinois, has taken his class in marketing for a visit to our Chicago office. These 19 students, accompanied by Prof. Lloyd, will assemble in the office at 1 P.M. this Friday, and Messrs. Butner, Baehler, Hall and others will explain the work of this Division, giving practical demonstrations of the various services.

Nathaniel Farnworth, of the recent Inspectors' training class in Chicago, has been assigned to handle shipping-point inspection of apples at Tonganoxie, Kansas, about 25 miles west of Kansas City. He advises that all cars inspected at Tonganoxie will bear the Kansas City office number, 15.

Under Chicago, on the last list of Inspectors, the residence address of M. A. Russell should be changed to 705 N. Latrobe Avenue. His telephone number is Mansfield 4613.

A recent letter from R. C. Bish, of the Cleveland office, tells of the quarantine issued by the State Dept. of Agriculture against the reception in Ohio of all evergreen trees, shrubs, etc., not nursery grown, which are produced in any of the six New England States. This action has been taken in Ohio, and in other eastern States, to avoid the importation of gypsy moth and brown-tail moth, now so prevalent in New England. This cuts off the main source of Christmas greens for many eastern cities, and probably will boost the prices this season.



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 43

November 1, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. F.O.B. AUCTION SALES BY LEASED WIRE.

A new departure in f.o.b. auction selling is the method employed by the F.O.B. Auction Company, of Chicago, as reported in a letter of October 22 from H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office:

"I have just returned from the first auction held in this city by the National F. O. B. Auction Sales Company. As you probably know, they have a private leased wire running between Boston, New York, Pittsburgh, Chicago, and Los Angeles and are offering all their cars for sale simultaneously in the five markets, the bidding being carried back and forth over their leased wires.

"While watching the sale, one could not help being impressed, and it would seem that this new development promises to be the biggest step forward in the marketing of fruits and vegetables in many years. Several times in the bidding it was noticeable that competition would arise between bidders in the different cities that would run the final price \$10 or \$15 higher per ton than was expected. While, of course, this leased wire is an enormous expense, if they are able to secure sufficient tonnage the expense will not exceed the usual cost of commercial messages necessary to sell a car.

"About 40 members of the trade attended this initial auction, and, while bidding here was naturally quite light, yet one car was actually sold to a Los Angeles buyer and bids for several others were made by local shippers. In all, 59 cars were sold, 56 being grapes, two apples and one cauliflower."

2a. FEDERAL CERTIFICATES USED IN COURT CASE.

B. S. Jones, Inspector in St. Louis, was recently called as a witness in a local court case. He tells of the results in the following letter:

"I was called Wednesday and was on the witness stand approximately one hour. The case was decided in favor of the defendant, Booth Cold Storage Company, for whom we made the inspections, our reports being used by the defendant and Moorhead's reports used by the plaintiff, J. Johnson & Co. The plaintiff brought suit, claiming apples were badly damaged by mold due to excessive dampness in storage, and that boxes and contents were covered with heavy mold. Our reports stated a few apples showed slight surface mold at blossom and stem end."

3a. TEXAS SPINACH SUMMARY.

A comprehensive Summary of the 1922-23 Spinach Season in Texas has just been issued by J. Austen Hunter, of the Austin office. This is a valuable report for all interested in spinach. A special chapter is devoted to per-capita consumption of this product, and there are charts illustrating the relation between market prices and arrivals in New York and Chicago.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK OCT. 22-27, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed Posted Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Washington - Misc.	1:36	2:20	44:00	210:00	2,450	--
New York - Misc. R	12:53	1:39	46	11	6,465	393
Atlanta - Misc. Q	12:44	1:41	57	12	4,205	--
Baltimore - Misc.	1:45	2:45	60	20	682	500
Boston - Misc. M	1:40	3:01	81	15	4,320	185
Philadelphia - Misc. R	1:25	2:53	88	17	17,800	510
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Pittsburgh - Misc.	12:37	12:53	16	10	2,665	16
St. Louis - Misc. Q	12:33	12:49	16	12	4,400	235
Chicago - Misc.	11:54	12:20	26	19	8,000	3,200
Kansas City - Misc.	12:19	12:46	27	10	3,350	225
Cincinnati - Misc. Q	12:20	12:56	36	10	4,540	181
Fort Worth - Misc.	1:16	1:55	39	12	1,860	310
Minneapolis - Misc. R	12:56	1:58	62	24	10,662	132
Denver - Misc. R	12:33	3:24	171	22	3,909	--
Washington (Nat'l) BFKMPQR, P'nuts, Ship. Infm.				93	32,756	1,132
TOTAL	12:54#	1:49#	55#	297	114,064	7,019
" previous week	12:43#	1:41#	61#	287	118,138	7,537

WESTERN OFFICES (OCT. 15-20)

Los Angeles - Misc. R, Ship.	4:01	5:56	55	12	10,871	--
San Francisco - Misc.	4:11	6:07	56	23	6,270	--
Salt Lake City - Misc.	3:35	4:57	82	10	1,389	--
Portland - BLMR	2:54	5:00	126	15	6,255	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			12,562		4,488,595	238,462

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK OCT. 22-27, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Grand Forks - R		1:16	2:33	2,206	361	25	--
Grand Junction - BR		1:46	2:46	3,180	505	2	--
Grand Rapids - BMR		2:05	4:00	9,822	1,643	--	--
Idaho Falls - R		1:47	3:10	8,550	1,400	--	--
Martinsburg - B		2:27	3:32	3,625	531	4	--
Presque Isle - R		2:05	3:13	11,717	1,953	3	--
Rochester - BFHMPR		3:06	4:11	6,844	977	13	--
*Sacramento - K		3:48	4:33	7,965	1,140	2	--
Spokane - B		1:59	5:01	11,374	2,161	3	--
Waupaca - R		11:34	1:59	7,080	1,180	--	--
TOTAL		1:05#	2:29#	72,363			
" previous week		1:50#	3:10#	65,746			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				1,510,413	# Average time.		
					* Reports for Oct. 15-20		

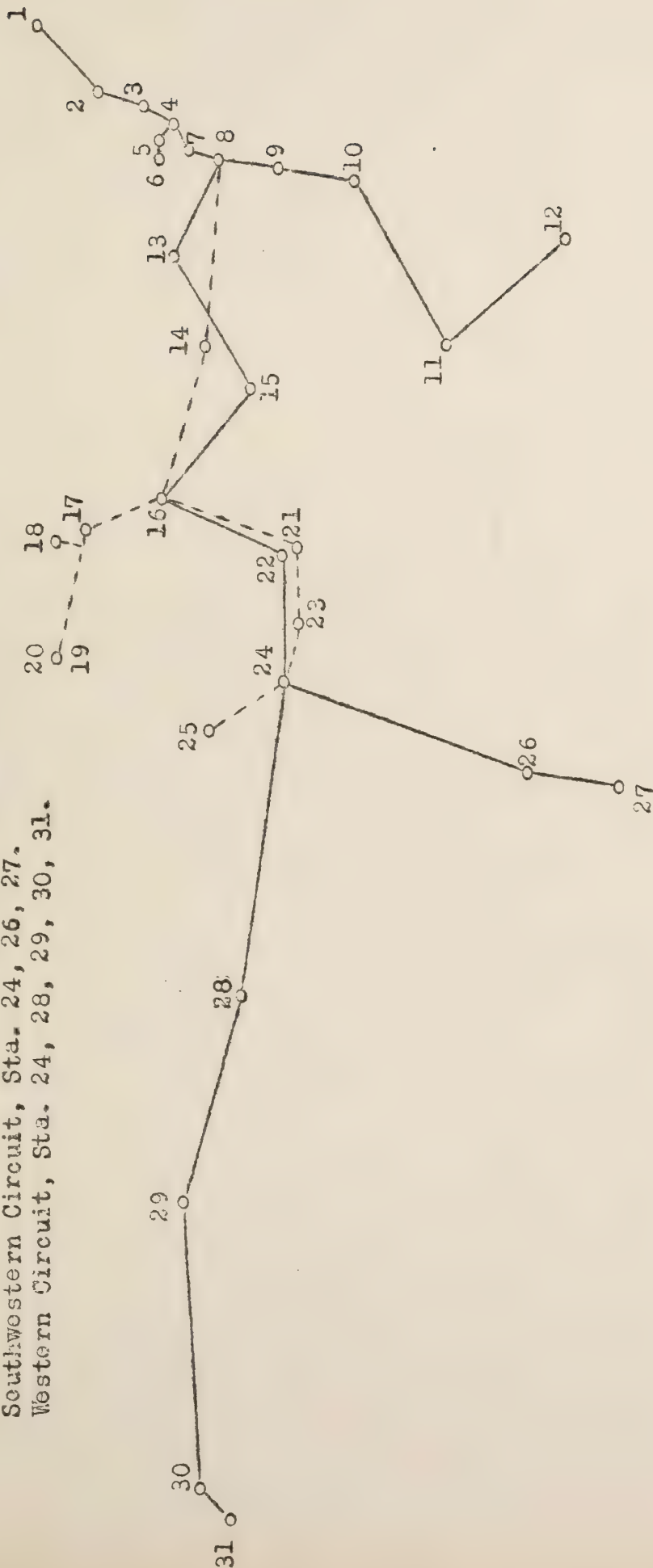
TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 6,237,470.



# LEASED WIRE CIRCUITS

Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
United States Department of Agriculture  
November 1, 1923

Eastern Circuit, Sta. 1 to 8. --- Live Stock Circuit, Stations 8, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20  
Southern Circuit, Sta. 8 to 12.  
Central Circuit, Sta. 8, 13, 15, 16, 22, 24.  
Southwestern Circuit, Sta. 24, 26, 27.  
Western Circuit, Sta. 24, 28, 29, 30, 31.







## TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.** Room 27, Mull Bldg.	918	Mrs. Burns	Pears* Peaches* Pl.&Pr.* Grapes	July 17 July 17 July 17 Aug. 6	Sept. 29* Sept. 29* Aug. 4* Nov. 10
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions Celery	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 28 Sept. 28 Oct. 15	Nov. 3 Oct. 13* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 15 Jan. 15 Dec. 1
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 17	Mar. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
GRAND FORKS, N. Dak. 206 Federal Bldg.	843	J. W. Park	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Mar. 1
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples Onions	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	Apr. 30 Nov. 15 Nov. 15

The following stations closed on dates indicated:

GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.** Chamber of Commerce	846	W. J. Bertush	Potatoes Pears Peaches Apples	Aug. 7 Aug. 15 Aug. 24 Sept. 20	<del>Closed</del> <del>Oct. 30</del> Oct. 4 Sept. 19 Oct. 30
MARTINSBURG, W. VA. Room 18, Court House	835	F. H. Scruggs	Apples	Sept. 21	Oct. 31

\*Reports discontinued. \*\*State Dept. cooperating.

W. J. Bertush, V. D. Callanan, J. D. Evers, R. H. Lamb, C. E. Schultz and J. G. Scott in Chicago. F. H. Scruggs, in Boston; G. A. DeHaven, in Kansas City; S. D. Main, in Philadelphia.

INSPECTION SERVICE
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1c. SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS IN WASHINGTON.

About 60 local inspectors have been licensed to handle the work in the Wenatchee-Okanogan district of Washington, according to a letter of October 27 from F. S. Kinsey. In addition, the State has 12 men doing only the platform work. Mr. Kinsey's letter continues in part as follows:

"Just now work is light at some of the loading stations, as some of the houses have closed, to let their workers go out into the orchards and pick. There must be 20 per cent of the crop still on the trees. About 10 days ago there was a rain in the district, with snow in the mountains, which latter scared many of the tourist-pickers. It is estimated that 500 to 1,000 of these left for more sunny climes after the storm, there being a rumor that Blewett would close early. This rumor, however, is unfounded."

2c. APPLE INSPECTIONS IN THE POTOMAC VALLEY.

P. D. Rupert, who is completing the apple inspection work around Inwood, W. Va., made the following report in a letter of October 30:

"The cooperative Federal and State inspection work conducted the past month at Inwood, W. Va.; St. Thomas, Pa.; Shepherdstown, W. Va.; and Harrisonburg, Va., where stock is cooperatively packed and shipped under the 'Johnny Appleseed Brand' and sold on a basis of U. S. grades and Federal inspection at shipping point, has been very satisfactory. The Federated Fruit and Vegetable Growers, salesmen, report: 'No cars inspected at shipping point rejected on basis of grade at destination.'

"The Inwood Fruit Growers' Club has packed 140,000 bushels of apples to date and shipped 167 cars, approximately 60% of these being barreled stock. St. Thomas has shipped 40 cars; Shepherdstown 77; Harrisonburg 4. The following are the expected future shipments: Inwood 25 cars; Shepherdstown 20; and St. Thomas 10 cars. This will probably close the shipping-point work here about November 6 or 7.

"Mr. Prettyman, Superintendent of the Inwood plant, states: 'U. S. grades and Federal inspection at shipping point have given us an ideal to work to and created a standard which we feel will show itself in the market value of our product.'"

3c. CALIFORNIA INSPECTION WORK.

Writing from Sacramento, under date of October 23, W. F. Allewelt tells of the volume of shipping-point work in that State:

"Our volume of business is continuing quite large. Inspections during the month of September totaled about 10,350 cars, principally grapes, and inspections during the first half of October have been approximately 4,000 cars. The grape movement, however, is drawing to a close, and the last of this month will probably show a material reduction in the shipments and volume of inspection work.

"It appears that we may largely increase our winter work this season, principally on account of lettuce inspections in the Imperial Valley, which will assist materially in retaining our best men and developing a trained and experienced personnel which will serve us as a nucleus at all times."



4c. INSPECTION OF APPLES IN KANSAS.

In a letter of October 22, O. N. Harsha, of the Kansas City office, tells of the starting of apple inspections at Tonganoxie, Kans., under the supervision of Nathaniel Farnworth:-

"Mr. Farnworth and I, accompanied by Mr. Lamb, drove to Tonganoxie Sunday, where we spent most of the day looking over the orchard and taking some pictures with Mr. Miller, the proprietor.

"The orchard comprises 450 acres in a compact area and consists of Black Twig, Winesap, Willow Twig and Ben Davis, named in order of quantity; the loading station is about six miles away.

"The stock is of good quality and fine color; I do not believe there will be over 15% of blemishes, minor and serious,- chiefly blotch and scab. The orchard is generally in good condition and well cared for, Mr. Miller himself being a graduate horticulturist. He is very conscientious and is grading the stock chiefly on the basis of U. S. No. 1 grade; a few Black Twig will be graded U. S. Fancy. I shall run out to the orchard in the Ford from time to time, to see how things are moving."

F. G. ROBB,  
Specialist in Inspection.

"If Weather, Crops and Markets were a commercial paper, you might expect to find an advertisement like the following on its front page:

"Where are Potomac Valley apples going this year? Who is buying them? What prices are being paid? All these questions are answered by F. H. Scruggs, who needs no introduction to our readers. Turn to page 441 of this week's issue, and read his absorbingly interesting article on the unprecedented export movement of Potomac Valley apples. The table included gives some information never before published -- prices paid on British apple markets during the present season.

"How the Chicago potato market sagged and sagged and finally broke under enormous supplies is described by W. H. Hall, whose infrequent contributions are highly valued in our pages. Chicago, the barometer of the country's potato markets, has set the pace this season, and here is your chance to find out why your potatoes are bringing low prices.

"Aroostock County potatoes are unfailingly interesting to those who are well-informed in fruit and vegetable lines, and H. S. Stiles, and authority on the subject, gives us a striking resumé of the situation there. Where else could you obtain such information for a subscription price so low?"

The above lines were written by one of the clerks after she had read the last issue of Weather, Crops and Markets. Although the suggestion is impracticable at present, it contains some worth-while ideas.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Stillwell returned to his desk yesterday, after a two months' trip, visiting the market stations and field stations of the Market News Service throughout the Middle West and on the Pacific Coast. Mr. Robb was expected back in Washington this afternoon.

In order to give personal attention to the supervision of shipping-point inspection work in Florida during the next few months, Robert Bier left last night for Orlando, which will be his headquarters. His address is: Angebilt Hotel, Orlando, Fla.

By the end of this week, O. G. Strauss also expects to go to Florida to assist in supervising the inspections in that State. Mr. Strauss came to Washington about two weeks ago, and has since been handling the local inspection work and helping with duties in the main office of the Inspection Service. His Florida address will be announced later.

Inspection work on apples at the Inwood, W. Va., packing house is so near completion that P. D. Rupert, who has recently been in charge, probably will be ordered to Washington by Saturday, to handle temporarily the work which Mr. Strauss has been doing.

G. W. Hauck and H. A. Spilman spent Monday at Atlantic City, where they met with the cannery crops committee of the American Farm Bureau Federation and State representatives interested in the proposed grades for cannery tomatoes. Those present heartily endorsed the proposed Federal grades, and Mr. Hauck will now proceed to lay the matter before other representative bodies. Next Wednesday, he expects to discuss the grades with the head/<sup>of</sup> prominent packing house in Rochester, N. Y. On November 8, he will meet with the Western Cannery Association in Chicago, and then will visit interested persons in Indiana and Ohio, returning to Wilmington, Del., by the 13th for a meeting with the committee of the Tri-State Cannery Association.

Mr. Sherman plans to leave Washington on Tuesday for Chicago, where he will confer with representatives of this Division and become acquainted with members of the new training class for Inspectors. On November 9, he will be at Lawrence, Kans., for the annual Potato Show, and will give an informal talk on that occasion. J. H. Hoover, who has been supervising potato inspections in South Dakota and who formerly supervised the work in the Kaw Valley, also will attend the Kansas Potato Show. Before returning to Washington, Mr. Sherman will visit a number of southern States in the interest of shipping-point inspection service.

It is expected that the shipping-point inspection of onions in Indiana will be completed this week, and that C. H. Behrke, who has been in charge at Warsaw, and J. E. Dickerson, in charge at Knox, will return to their headquarters at Chicago.



OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, office of the Inspection Service opens today, with C. D. Shirley in charge. The local address has not yet been received.

Effective today, the Southern Circuit of the leased wire has been extended to Jacksonville, Fla., and a cooperative news service will be conducted within that State.

John W. Strowbridge, Investigator in Marketing, has been transferred to Mr. Samson's project from the Division of Statistical and Historical Research. He is engaged in the preparation of a report on the distribution of the citrus crop, as shown from the records of refrigerator car companies. The data for this report have been in the process of gathering for the past few months, this phase of the work being handled by two employees assigned from the F. & V. Division. Mr. Strowbridge is a graduate of the State Normal School, at Cortland, N. Y., and taught school for about nine years, later engaging in the creamery business in New York State. He was appointed to the Parcel Post section of the original Bureau of Markets in May, 1918, under the direction of Mr. Flohr, and was on that work until its abandonment in 1920. In these duties he was closely associated with our Mr. Spilman. From May, 1920, until the present time, Mr. Strowbridge has been doing statistical work under Dr. Stine's direction. Mr. Strowbridge is the author of Department Bulletin 1083, "Farm and Terminal Market Prices, Wheat, Corn and Oats, Crop Movement Year 1920-21."

It is with regret that announcement is made of the death of Daniel P. McCallum, who fatally shot himself on Sunday evening. Mr. McCallum was on the early morning force in Mr. Patton's section, tabulating telegraphic reports of shipments. Although he had been in this Division only a few months, Mr. McCallum will be truly missed from the staff. Being a veteran of the Spanish-American war, his body was buried with full military honors in Arlington Cemetery.

Lehron Ard, of the Interior Department, has been transferred to Mr. Patton's section, to handle the work formerly done by Mr. McCallum.

Sympathy is extended W. H. Stanton and his wife in the death of their four-months' old son. Mr. Stanton was in charge of our New York market news office until June, and is now at the head of the Bureau section of Audits and Accounts.

F. H. Scruggs visited the Washington office on Monday. Since the closing of the Martinsburg field station yesterday, Mr. Scruggs has gone to Boston to substitute for Mr. Evers.

Appointments as cooperative inspectors have been given the following members of the State inspection staff in California: Arthur D. Atterbury; Charles E. Linwood; Kenneth R. Nutting, and Herman W. Peterson. Mr. Peterson has been sent to the Los Angeles office, to substitute for H. F. Larson, while the latter is in Chicago, taking the Inspector's training.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Shipments of onions in Ohio were not offered in sufficient volume to justify the inspection service, and Wm. E. Lewis has now proceeded to Chicago, where he is making investigations looking to a modification of the present Federal grades for northern-grown onions. Mr. Lewis may later visit onion producing sections and members of the trade particularly interested in this product, and he will also confer with E. E. Conklin, Jr., at Rochester, on this subject. Mr. Conklin, by the way, has inaugurated shipping-point inspection of cabbage and potatoes around Syracuse, but his official headquarters remain Rochester.

Early next week, F. M. Patton plans to visit railroad officials in Chicago and New York, conferring particularly on the consolidation of shipment reports.

A. E. Prugh, in charge of the field station at Idaho Falls, is now publishing a daily review of the markets at the head of his reports on potatoes. This is just a brief summary of the shipment information, the f.o.b. situation, and city markets, and condenses the reports into a nutshell.

One of the field men recently sent in an interesting "speed record" of office operations as accomplished by his clerk. Each day this office mails about 1,600 reports. The Addressograph work on that number of envelopes requires 32 minutes; the "flapping back" of envelopes, 15 minutes; folding and stuffing, 40 minutes; putting flaps down and sealing, 18 minutes. This total time of 1 hour and 45 minutes makes an average for Addressograph work of 50 envelopes per minute; "flapping back" envelopes, 106 per minute; folding and stuffing, 40 per minute; putting flaps down and sealing, 89 envelopes per minute. The average time for cutting one long stencil is 25 minutes.

Have you seen this week's issue of The B.A.E. News? It is an illustrated number, bearing on the front page a drawing depicting the statisticians in session at Indianapolis. A clever piece of work, attracting the eye and impelling one to read the article.

This issue of the Division Letter contains no special section for the Market News Service.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 44

November 8, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

These two items appeared in a recent issue of "Agricultural Cooperation":

1a. ADJUSTING PRODUCTION TO DEMAND.

For two years the management of the Empire State Potato Growers' Cooperative Association, Inc., Rochester, N.Y., has been advising the Association membership in regard to acreage to be planted to potatoes and cabbage. In the spring of 1922, data obtained from a survey of prospective plantings indicated that the increase in potato acreage would be 14.4% over that of the preceding year, and that the increase in acreage devoted to cabbage would be 35.8%. Immediately circulars were mailed to members of the Association, calling their attention to the possible consequences of an increased acreage, with the result that the actual increase was much smaller than the promised increase. The following excerpt from the circular of 1922 is a sample of the kind of arguments used with the growers:

"If we should actually plant 14.4% more acres of potatoes this season than last and should get the same yields per acre as last year, the crop for this State would be almost as large as that big crop we had in 1920, when many bushels never found a market."

In dealing with the prospective increase in cabbage acreage in 1923 the following arguments were used:

"The cabbage situation is alarming. Three hundred cabbage growers in this State expect to increase their acreage 31% over that of last year. The New York State acreage last year was larger than usual..... The yield was better than average..... Apparently cabbage growers of this State are not discouraged over last year's low prices, but are ready to gamble on an increased acreage of 31% over the large acreage of 1922."

Not only were circular letters sent to the members of the Association, but farm and other papers were supplied with the facts regarding the outlook and the probable consequences in case there was not a reduction in the number of acres it was proposed to plant.

2a. COOPERATIVE FRUIT SALES BY 667 ORGANIZATIONS.

The following table shows the fruit sales made during 1922 by 667 farmers' business organizations which reported to the Division of Agricultural Cooperation:

Kind of Fruit	: Number of Assns.:	Number of Cars :	Value	: Per Cent
Citrus Fruits	: 323	: 43,520	: \$71,690,377	: 39.1
Raisins	: 1	: 6,200	: 35,419,724	: 19.3
Apples	: 130	: 12,646	: 11,095,801	: 6.1
Grapes	: 44	: 9,670	: 7,289,130	: 3.9
Strawberries	: 95	: 5,283	: 5,552,988	: 3.1
Peaches	: 38	: 4,670	: 5,128,598	: 2.8
Cranberries	: 4	: 1,660	: 3,856,510	: 2.1
Pears	: 32	: 3,150	: 3,450,000	: 1.9
Misc. Fruit	: --	: 13,720	: 39,905,842	: 21.7
Total	: 667	: 100,519	\$183,388,970	: 100.0

MARKET NEWS SERVICE
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1b. CHANGES IN APPLE PAGE OF CODE. (Effective November 16).

For some time "KAN" (formerly decoded as "C" grade) on the apple page of the code, has had no assigned meaning. Effective November 16, make this read

KAN 2 3/4 inch

In order to obviate any uncertainty which might exist as to the meaning of the word "mixed" in such phrases on the apple page as "Mixed A and B 2 1/2 inches up," change "mixed" in "KIH," "KIJ," "KIM," to "various varieties." The phrases will then read

KIH Various varieties A and B 2 1/4 inches up

KIJ Various varieties A and B 2 1/2 inches up

KIM Various varieties A and B 2 1/4 inches

KIN Various varieties A and B 2 1/2 inches

2b. USE OF HAULINGS AND SHIPMENT PHRASES.

A number of field men, even at potato stations, continue to use "hauling phrases in their f.o.b. wires practically every day. This is unnecessary except when the haulings are unusual. "Shipment" phrases also should be used only occasionally. The following paragraphs which appeared in the D.L. of November 9, 1922, and were repeated in the D.L. of August 30, 1923, should be read carefully.

"In the past we have rather insisted on the use by field men, in their daily f.o.b. reports, of phrases covering haulings, so long as any haulings were being made. With the increased use of storages in producing sections, it is felt that haulings phrases in the fall and winter are now useful chiefly to indicate the rate of harvest and, as a rule, should be included in the daily wires only when unusual. In such cases an explanatory phrase should be added. For example: 'Haulings light account condition of roads.' Occasionally during the season the use of phrases such as 'Haulings increasing,' 'Haulings probably at height, expect falling off,' 'Haulings decreasing,' may be desirable. Haulings terms, when used, should refer to the entire shipping area, so far as possible, and not alone to the town in which the reporter is located.

"The use of shipment phrases has been avoided in the past because actual shipment figures appear in the same news report with the f.o.b. statement. Further, a field man's knowledge of the day's shipments from other important loading points than his own may be confined, at the time his wire to Washington is prepared, to information received by telephone or to statements obtained from buyers who had returned from trips to the other points. Nevertheless, it is true that the field man knows in a general way whether shipments are increasing or decreasing, and whether heavy or light. The occasional use of the code terms for 'Shipments increasing,' 'Shipments decreasing,' 'Shipments probably at height, expect falling off,' is desired. When shipments are not normal they can be described by the use of such phrases as 'Shipments very light,' 'Practically no shipments,' 'Shipments light,' always followed by an explanatory phrase, such as 'account car shortage' or 'account buyers holding off,' etc.

"If phrases in the code book will not cover the meaning you wish to convey, use English. Most situations can be handled by the use of phrases from the code, but do not feel compelled to use a stereotyped code phrase which does not present an accurate picture of the situation."



3b. WESTERN NEW YORK CIDER APPLES

C. L. Brown, of the Rochester office, explains in a recent letter what he means when he quotes "cider apples":

"Perhaps you have wondered just exactly what kind of apples I mean, by the term 'cider apples.' By 'cider apples' is meant the poorest grade of merchantable apples. It includes culls thrown out while putting up barrel and bushel apples, stock running too poor to be used by canners and evaporators, and the very poorest of windfalls. Practically no attempt is made to keep varieties separate, unless it is a special order for fancy cider.

"The apples are always sold on a bulk-per-cwt. basis, never on a package basis, and are hauled by growers to local cider mills, in boxes, sacks or most any kind of a package. In shipping, they may be loaded either in box cars, or any type of open top car, since most stock goes on short hauls. The product may be sold as sweet cider, or be allowed to ferment and make vinegar; sometimes hard cider, too.

"Shipments of cider apples have been relatively heavy in proportion to daily total shipments and demand has been good, which is in direct contrast to movement of other grades of apples. A new code word is scarcely necessary, as the term will not be used much, except when it is impossible to get any other kind of quotations."

4b. MINNESOTA PRODUCTS TO NEW YORK BY BOAT.

The following interesting account was received from O. D. Miller, of the New York office.

"A new route of delivery of western products to New York City was tried for the first time when a shipment of fresh vegetables arrived there by boat from Duluth, Minnesota, by way of the Great Lakes, the Erie Canal and Hudson River, October 31st.

"The principal part of this cargo consisted of five carloads of Minnesota cauliflower and three carloads of Minnesota potatoes. The shipment is unusual, not only on account of the route of delivery but because of the commodities delivered, as well, since neither potatoes nor cauliflower has been unloaded in New York City from that State previous to this season. Two other shipments of Minnesota cauliflower reached New York recently: one was a carload routed all the way by rail, and the other was five cars transported by boat to Buffalo and the rest of the way by rail. The all-rail shipment was nine days in transit, and the shipment which came through the Erie Canal was on the road only three days longer.

"The cauliflower was of excellent quality. It was packed in round-bottom bushel baskets, but the trade considers such a package inferior to crates, which generally are used for this commodity, because the ventilation is poor. Both the boat and rail shipments came under refrigeration, and there was little difference in condition upon arrival. The only complaint was of wilted leaves. The stock sold to jobbers in a range of \$.75-1.25, with most sales around \$1. The freight charge by the all-boat route was 20¢ per bushel, while the all-rail charge was 45¢. The potatoes were Cobblers, packed in 150-lb. sacks. They sold for \$2.25 per sack, which was about 50¢ below the prevailing market for New York Round Whites. The discount was for irregular quality, rather than for poor condition."

5b. CHARTS FOR WEEKLY REVIEW.

In the Division Letter for October 11, paragraph 1b, it was suggested that advance copies of charts and diagrams for the Weekly Review might be sent to such offices as desired to use them in their editions of the Review. Thus far, only three offices have advised that they possibly could make use of such charts occasionally. Since it seems impracticable, in general, to put this plan into effect, the publication of graphs with the Tuesday Review will be limited to the Washington edition. Any offices not at present receiving a copy of the Washington issue of the Weekly Review and Carlot Summary can have their names added to the mailing list on request.

6b. QUOTATIONS ON SPANISH ONIONS.

To make possible the tabulation of comparable prices of Spanish onions, one market with another and one season against another, it is requested that all reporters quote consistently the wholesale prices on crates, rather than half-cases or cases. If crates are not on the market, it will be necessary, of course, to confine prices to cases or half cases; but quotations on crates should always be included whenever possible.

7b. CORRECTION REGARDING F.O.B. AUCTION COMPANIES.

Since reaching Chicago, Mr. Sherman has advised of an error in paragraph 1a of the last Division Letter. The name of the company now using leased wires for making sales is Mr. Kellerman's concern, the National Auction Company, Inc., whose headquarters are Pittsburgh. Mr. Sherman's wire concludes:

"The auction company which started here in Chicago is The F.O.B. Auction Company, Inc. This company holds sales Monday, Wednesday and Friday of each week, and will have leased wire to Boston, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and New York, beginning Friday. Detroit and Cleveland to be included later."

8b. ANNOUNCE OPENING OF SAN ANTONIO OFFICE.

Men in charge of market and field stations should include in their bulletins for the next few days an announcement of the opening of the San Antonio office of the Inspection Service. The address is Food Products Inspection Service, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Chamber of Commerce Bldg., San Antonio, Texas. If this announcement is enclosed as a boxed item, it will attract more attention.

9b. REPORT ON MIMEOGRAPH INK.

Practically all of branch offices and temporary stations are now using "Mimecon" ink in place of A.B. Dick ink #767, which formerly was furnished. The Mimecon ink, as you know, costs only 93¢ per pound-can, compared with \$1.50 per pound for #767 ink. Tests of the Mimecon ink have shown that its use is more economical and that, if applied more sparingly on account of thinner consistency, good results are obtainable. Some offices, however, have not found its use satisfactory. Every Market News office, therefore, is requested to report to us its experience in the use of Mimecon ink. We prefer to continue the use of this ink, if satisfactory and more economical.

E. W. STILLWELL,  
Specialist In Market News  
(Fruits and Vegetables)



## TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears* Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions Celery	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 28 Sept. 28 Oct. 15	Nov. 3* Oct. 13* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 15 Jan. 15 Dec. 1
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 17	Mar. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
GRAND FORKS, N. DAK. 206 Federal Bldg.	843	J. W. Park	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Mar. 1
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples Onions	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	Apr. 30 Nov. 15 Dec. 1

The following station closes on date indicated:

					Closed
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.** Room 27, Mull Bldg.	918	Mrs. Burns	Pears Peaches Pl. & Pr. Grapes	July 17 July 17 July 17 Aug. 6	Sept. 29 Sept. 29 Aug. 4 Nov. 10

\* Reports discontinued.

Following are in Chicago:

\*\* State Dept. cooperating

F. H. Scruggs in Boston.

G. A. DeHaven in Kansas City.

S. D. Main in Philadelphia.

W. J. Bertush

V. D. Callanan

J. D. Evers

R. H. Lamb

C. E. Schultz

J. G. Scott

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK OCT 29-NOV. 3, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed, Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed and Posted
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
New York - Misc. R	12:44	1:26	42	11	6,512	386
Baltimore - Misc.	1:41	2:41	60	20	733	--
Washington - Misc.	1:15	2:30	75	10	2,190	--
Atlanta - Misc. Q	12:15	1:34	79	12	5,515	13
Boston - Misc. M	2:20	3:39	79	15	4,420	185
Philadelphia - Misc. R	1:18	3:11	113	16	19,024	455
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
St. Louis - Misc. Q	12:43	12:58	15	14	4,400	185
Pittsburgh - Misc.	12:37	12:59	22	10	2,693	49
Cincinnati - Misc. Q	12:28	1:01	23	10	4,540	181
Chicago - Misc.	11:49	12:18	29	19	9,700	1,500
Kansas City - Misc. Honey	12:24	12:55	31	11	3,350	995
Fort Worth - Misc.	1:11	1:47	36	14	1,855	309
Minneapolis - Misc. R	1:19	2:09	50	23	10,782	110
Denver - Misc. R	12:27	2:48	141	22	11,167	--
Washington (Nat'l) BFKMPOR P'nuts, Honey, Ship. Infm.	91			91	33,508	1,135
TOTAL	12:54#	1:51#	57#	298	120,389	5,203
" previous week	12:54#	1:49#	55#	297	114,064	7,019

## WESTERN OFFICES (OCT. 22-27)

Los Angeles - Misc. R Ship.	3:48	4:43	55	11	11,022	--
San Francisco - Misc. BMR	3:53	4:48	55	24	3,210	--
Salt Lake City - Misc.	3:11	4:57	106	10	1,670	--
Portland - Misc. BLR	3:00	4:51	111	14	6,629	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			12,919		4,631,415	243,665

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK OCT. 29-NOV. 3, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Grand Forks - R	1:24	2:48	2,391	399	11	--
Grand Junction - BR	2:02	3:15	1,040	505	--	--
Grand Rapids - BMR	1:40	3:21	11,416	1,609	--	2
Martinsburg - B	2:37	3:45	1,234	600	3	--
Idaho Falls - R	1:40	3:07	8,700	1,425	2	--
Presque Isle - R	2:21	3:23	11,835	1,972	1	--
Rochester - BFHMPR	2:34	3:49	6,768	997	2	--
*Sacramento - K	3:58	4:33	6,900	1,150	1	--
Spokane - B	2:13	4:32	13,734	2,197	2	--
Waupaca - R	12:27	2:19	7,276	1,213	3	--
TOTAL	2:05#	3:29#	71,294			
" previous week	1:05#	2:29#	72,353			

TOTAL JAN. 1 to date

1,581,707

# Average Time

\* Reports for Oct. 22-27

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 - 6,456,787



INSPECTION SERVICE1c. ALWAYS TAKE TEMPERATURES OF APPLE CARS DURING WINTER AND SPRING MONTHS.

During my recent western trip, my attention was called by Mr. Pailthorp and by a number of different shippers to the importance of giving temperatures of apples at receiving markets during winter months, when heater service is used over part of the route. It frequently happens that the upper layers of a car will be overheated while the bottom of the load may be frozen. Temperature should always be taken top and bottom near the door and at top quarter length of car.

This applies to apples shipped in refrigerators, whether iced or dry. These temperatures should be taken regardless of outside temperatures. They may not be conclusive regarding overheating or freezing of bottoms, but frequently give information which will be valuable in settling claims for transit damage from either of the above-mentioned causes.

2c. INSPECTIONS AT NEW YORK SHIPPING POINTS

Writing from Cortland, N.Y., on November 1, E.E. Conklin, Jr., tells about his work in New York State in the following letter:

"We now have eight inspectors working, and have inspected about 235 cars of potatoes and about 40 cars of cabbage. We have been working one or two men on cabbage, and expect to put on a third next week. The work, so far, has been in Cortland County, for two shippers- R.L. Church & Co., of Skaneateles, N.Y., and Wavle, Chaplin & Fitts, of Cortland, N.Y. Next week, we will start inspecting cabbage at Skaneateles, Marcellus, and vicinity for Church & Co., DeWitt & Tucker, and for the Empire State Potato Growers' Assn. local unit, at Marcellus. The cabbage work started October 25th and is going very nicely. We are using the U. S. grades, but not the U. S. size classifications. On the certificates, we report the size by weights only; for example: '2 to 6 lbs., mostly 3 to 6 lbs.' The U. S. size classifications do not seem to correspond with the usual practice in this district.

"The potato work has been limited on account of the light shipments this season. Growers have shown a tendency to hold for higher prices and are releasing stock very slowly. All of our potato inspection work has been in the Steuben-Allegany County district. Mr. Duncan and myself arranged for inspection in the Gainesville-Hardys section, and around Batavia and Stafford, but loadings have been so extremely light from these sections that it has been impracticable to assign men to the work.

"We have signed up the cabbage and potato shippers to have inspections from October to December, just the same as last year. It is too early, as yet, to tell whether the work will be continued next spring.

"Let patience, courtesy, and an honest effort to serve your  
Employers, 110,000,000 American Citizens, be your constant guides."

William C. Deming, President,  
U. S. Civil Service Commission.

3c. BITTER PIT OR STIGMONOSE.

The following article was submitted by Dr. D. H. Rose, of B.P.I. It should be carefully read by all Inspectors:

There is common, in orchards all over the country this year, a spotting of apples which is difficult to diagnose. In some instances it looks like bitter pit; in others like stigmonose. It is usually worst on the blossom half of the apple and very often, though not always, worse on large sizes than on small. Both of these conditions are known to be characteristic of bitter pit. Reports have come to the writer, however, of orchards in which the spotting was found on apples of all sizes.

The spots vary in size but are usually quite large, that is,  $1/8$  to  $3/16$  of an inch in diameter. Some of them are dark green and only slightly sunken; others are brown to black and very definitely sunken, while still others occupy a sort of middle ground between these two extremes. It may not always be possible for the inspector to say positively whether he is dealing with bitter pit or with stigmonose. It will help some, however, to remember that genuine bitter pit shows up deep in the flesh as well as on the surface, while stigmonose occurs only on the surface. This does not mean that either one is ever entirely superficial but merely that stigmonose injury does not occur deep in the flesh. Both kinds of spots, bitter pit and stigmonose, show a mass of brown dead cells in the flesh under the spot but this mass is usually larger and more irregular in stigmonose than in bitter pit. It is possible that both kinds of spots might occur on the same apple. In fact, a few specimens have been seen in which both kinds as described above could be found. Dealing with such specimens, the inspector should merely state what he finds, that is, bitter pit and stigmonose "in about equal amounts" or "mostly the one, or the other."

The spots seen most commonly this fall were of orchard origin, that is, they could be seen at picking time, while the fruit was still on the tree. Bitter pit, on the other hand, may and often does develop in transit or storage; it then looks very definitely as though it had developed from the inside. The spots here under discussion do not have that appearance. Stigmonose, of course, does not develop in transit or storage. It all comes down to this, that inspectors will need to study the above discussion, also the photographs and descriptions in the Fruit Disease Handbook and then, if possible, come to a decision, one way or the other. They may be compelled to give, on the certificate, merely a description of the spots.

"DON'T EXPECT TO GET MORE OUT OF YOUR JOB THAN YOU PUT INTO IT."

"DON'T BE AFRAID TO GO AHEAD FOR FEAR OF MAKING MISTAKES. DON'T REPEAT YOUR MISTAKES."

"DON'T NURSE A GRIEVANCE. LAY YOUR TROUBLES BEFORE YOUR CHIEF. HE HAS BEEN THROUGH IT HIMSELF AND UNDERSTANDS."

William C. Deming, President,  
U.S. Civil Service Commission.



4c. REINSPECTIONS REQUESTED BY SHIPPING-POINT SUPERVISORS:

We have had a number of requests from shipping-point supervisors for reinspections at terminal markets. Some of these requests have been because of complaints of the receiver regarding the shipping-point inspection, while others have been for the purpose of checking on the work of shipping-point inspectors.

Such requests should state definitely the purpose of the reinspection. In case a receiver makes complaint but is unwilling to call for a reinspection himself and the shipper desires to further substantiate his claim by another inspection, he should make a definite request for reinspection and pay for the same in the usual way. This request is frequently filed through a shipping-point supervisor. Such requests will be handled in the usual way.

If the shipping-point supervisor desires reinspection to check up on the work of his men, receiving-point inspectors will be glad to make such inspections, in so far as their <sup>time</sup> permits, without any cost. Such reinspections will usually be made by only one man and reports will be issued on such inspections in an informal way. Such reports should not be made on regular certificate forms but should be modeled after our regular receiving-point certificates. This will avoid the necessity of accounting for certificates on which no fees are charged.

If the shipping-point supervisor desires such reports on more than an occasional car, arrangements should be made in advance with the Supervising Inspector of the district to which the cars are moving.

5c. INTERESTING INSPECTION WORK IN GEORGIA:

In a letter of November 6, T.C. Curry tells of his work at Atlanta:

"The month of October was one of the heaviest months for inspection work in the history of Atlanta office. We made 114 inspections, declining only a very few.

"One notable feature of the work in Atlanta at present is the large number of inspections made for J. L. Budreau & Company of Savannah, Georgia. In a way, this is a shipping-point inspection, since these cars are diverted all over the Southeast, and many of them he never sees, selling them on the Government inspection report. In addition to the information covered by the certificate, he is particularly interested in knowing whether the stock is clean, bright and attractive or whether it is of dull color and slightly dirty, etc. We give him this information in our wire, but do not include it on the certificates. During October we made, at his request, a total of 53 inspections, 48 of which were potatoes, 4 onions and 1 apples."

F. G. ROBB,  
Specialist in Inspection,

OFFICE NOTES:

P. D. Rupert came from Inwood, W.Va., on Monday and is handling the Washington inspection work temporarily. He reports that about 100 cars of apples were inspected this season at points in the Shenandoah and Potomac Valleys. O. G. Strauss, formerly in Washington, left on Tuesday for Florida, stopping off part of a day at Raleigh, N. C.

In the magazine section of "The Sunday Star," Washington, D.C., November 4, there was published an illustrated article on "Shenandoah's Apple Harvest Time Becomes Annually More Important." It commends the shipping-point inspection work in that territory. One of the pictures was of an apple grading or sorting machine.

J. J. Gardner, in charge of the Pittsburgh Inspection office, visited points in Virginia and West Virginia last Friday and Saturday, seeing that the inspections of apples were brought to a satisfactory conclusion. Mr. Gardner had personally supervised this shipping-point work earlier in the season.

H. A. Spilman is on a short trip in the interest of package standardization. He went to Trenton, N.J., to confer with the Secretary of the State Farm Bureau organization, and today is in New York City, attending the Eastern States' apple Exposition.

Having completed his studies in the Northwest regarding the extent and causes of rejections of apple shipments, R.R. Pailthorp is expected to report to the Washington office within the next week or ten days.

C.H. Behnke has already returned to Chicago from the onion-producing district of Indiana, but J. E. Dickerson will remain at Knox, Ind., a few more days to complete inspections of onions. Wm. E. Lewis has gone from Chicago to confer with Mr. Dickerson and the growers and shippers of this product, relative to possible changes in the onion grades. Mr. Lewis is expected to reach New York City early next week..

Since they have finished the course of training given Inspectors in Chicago, Edgar Krumm and E.G. Batsford will be sent to New York City, to assist with inspection work in that territory. Their names should be cancelled under Chicago and inserted under New York, on the list of Inspectors.

In observance of Armistice Day, all offices in Ohio and the Denver office will be closed on Saturday of this week. Pittsburgh and Salt Lake City close at noon on Monday, and Spokane will be closed all day Monday.

Shipping-point inspections in Utah are rapidly decreasing. Probably 50 cars of potatoes and apples will be handled this week and the same number next week, after which the season will be practically closed. A. E. Mercker, who has been supervising these activities, probably will be ready to leave Salt Lake City by November 15.



OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Potato inspection work in South Dakota was terminated on Wednesday, and J. H. Hoover is at Lawrence, Kans., attending the State Potato Show. He expects to go on a short period of leave before his next assignment.

Dr. D. H. Rose, of the Plant Disease Survey, B.P.I., will go to Chicago on Monday, to assist in instructing the new training class for Inspectors.

S. F. Shreve, Inspector at Baltimore, was a visitor to the Washington office this morning. He reports the work rather light at present in Baltimore.

Before leaving Sacramento, C.E. Schultz issued an excellent summary of the California grape season, including many valuable statistics. He had previously issued summaries on peaches and pears. Copies of these publications probably can still be secured through Mrs. Burns, in charge of the office, at Room 27 Mull Bldg., Sacramento.

The latest word concerning R.S. Lumbard, of the Kansas City office, indicates that he is slowly recovering from his recent operation. He sat up for the first time last Monday.

The cooperative appointment of J. G. Scott, of the Philadelphia Market News office, has been terminated since the main shipping season in New Jersey is closed, and he is now wholly on the Federal pay roll. The auction reporters, - Samuel Leitzer in New York and E. T. Garlick in Philadelphia, - who have been working under cooperative appointments, will be off the pay-roll after November 15.

C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office, has gone on leave to Oregon, and is not expected to return until about the 21st. His inspection work for the Navy is being handled by S. H. Fountain, who recently went West to open a Navy inspection station at Vallejo, Calif. Mr. Fountain also will assist in issuing the market reports at San Francisco during Mr. Hansen's absence.

Announcement has been received of the recent marriage of Miss Elsie A. Roberts, of the St. Louis office, to Mr. Edward G. Pecher of that city. Miss Roberts has been clerk-typist for the St. Louis Inspectors nearly five years, and, as Mrs. Pecher, will continue her services in the same position.

Page 2 of this week's issue of The B.A.E. News contains an extensive interview with Mr. Robb, concerning his recent western trip. Find a copy of The News in your office, and read of Mr. Robb's experiences.

Miss Pearl Moore, of the Pittsburgh office, will be on leave November 19 to December 6. New clerks appointed in branch offices are as follows: Minneapolis Inspection office, Miss Mignon Langill; Portland office, Miss Myrl Miller.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Addresses of the cooperative market news offices on the Southern Circuit, and the names of the telegraph operators, are as follows:

<u>RICHMOND, VA.:</u> State Division of Markets, 407 Lyric Bldg. W. L. Nelson, Telegrapher.	<u>ATLANTA, GA.:</u> Bureau of Agr. Economics, 1717 Citizens and Sou. Bk. Bldg. M. E. Baggett, Telegrapher.
<u>RALEIGH, N. C.:</u> State Dept. of Agriculture, 312 New Agricultural Bldg., W. F. Weeks, Telegrapher.	<u>JACKSONVILLE, FLA.:</u> State Marketing Bureau, 204 St. James Bldg. Mrs. E. B. Cochran, Telegrapher.

On the principle that pictures frequently speak louder than words, a most interesting illustrated booklet has been issued with the title: "Carrying Fruits and Vegetables to 8,000,000 People in Port of New York District." Copies can be secured directly from the author, W. P. Hedden, in Charge of Research Work, Port of New York Authority, 11 Broadway, New York City. All of the pictures are unique and they tell <sup>an</sup> eloquent story.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 45

November 15, 1923

(Contents Confidential)

1a. EQUIPMENT OF TECHNICAL MEN IN THE FIELD.

In view of the fact that many new men have come into our service during recent months, attention is here called to the fact that every technical employee engaged on either Market News or Inspection work in the field should have in his possession the following articles:

Administrative section of Inspector's Handbook.

Department identification card.

Department fiscal regulations.

Department administrative regulations.

Mailing list of field personnel of either service of this Division.

In addition, each qualified Inspector should have a Food Products Inspector's identification card, the Inspection Handbook, and various other memoranda dealing with commodities to be inspected; Market News men should also have a code book and the large Market News Handbook. The latter, however, is out of date in several respects, but is valuable as a guide in handling the field work until such time as it can be revised.

If any of the above articles are needed by individuals, requests for them should be addressed to the Washington office.

2a. CELERY AND POTATOES IN OREGON.

In addition to heavy shipments of apples from the Pacific Northwest, potatoes and celery were moving in considerable volume the early part of November. According to reports from the Portland office of the Federal market news service, the production of celery is somewhat a new industry for that section, and it is estimated that nearly 400 carloads will be offered this season. In Washington, celery is being produced around Spokane and on some of the low lands in the Puget Sound region. In Oregon, this crop is grown on the delta and beaver-dam lands along the lower Columbia River, centering at Portland.

The celery is packed in 24-inch square crates, running from four to six dozen stalks per crate and usually 160 crates to the car. The stock in a few of the early shipments was slightly immature, but that going out about November 6 was heavy-stemmed and so tall that the tops had to be trimmed in crates on the lower layers. The celery fields seem practically free from blight and disease, and all stock offered so far has had no difficulty in meeting requirements of No. 1 grade.

Early potatoes have been moving from Oregon since August, and the Garnet Chili seed potatoes, for the early red crop that comes back from California in the spring, had been dug and were moving South. Oregon's main or late crop in the Willamette Valley was still in the ground, for there had not been the killing frost necessary for final ripening. The larger part of Oregon's crop, both white and red potatoes, goes to California for seed purposes. The commercial deal varies from conditions in most States in that practically all potatoes come from small patches and most cars contain lots from three or four growers. During the first week of November, the price to producers was ranging \$1-\$1.25 for U. S. No. 1 Burbanks and \$1-\$1.10 for No. 1 Garnets.



MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. CHANGES ON "MA" (CELERY) PAGE OF CODE (Effective Nov.22)

On the celery page of the code, the symbol "MAP," decoded "New York crates," has been used somewhat loosely in our reports to indicate both full and two-thirds crates. To avoid any uncertainty as to what crate is intended, change the meaning of "MAJ" from "Michigan cases (bushel flats)" to read:

MAJ New York two-thirds crates ( 16"x21"x21").

In the meaning for "MAP" insert "full" between "New York" and "crates," and add the dimensions, making the expression read:

MAP New York full crates ( 24"x21"x21").

The dimensions will, of course, not be decoded.

2b. ADDITIONAL FIELD STATION SUMMARIES.

The following additional summaries have recently been distributed:  
 Louisiana Strawberry Deal, Season of 1923, - by Geo. E. Prince.  
 Florida Celery Deal, Season of 1923, - by J. D. Evers.  
 Kennett, Mo., Watermelon Deal, Season of 1923, - by H. S. Stiles.  
 North Carolina White Potato Deal, Season of 1923, - by A. E. Prugh.

3b. CHRISTMAS TREE SITUATION IN CHICAGO.

Very many of the eastern and middle-western States have already taken steps to exclude New England trees infested with gypsy moth and brown-tail moth. W. H. Hall, of the Chicago office, sends this summary of the situation:

"We have just received a notice from the State Department of Agriculture covering the subject of shipping Christmas trees into Illinois. We understand that a number of the other large markets have received inquiries relative to the requirements for the shipment of Christmas trees from the New England States, and I thought perhaps a short resumé of this notice would be interesting. The notice is to the effect that Christmas trees from New England must be covered by a certificate, proving conclusively that the trees were shipped from territory not covered by the quarantine placed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture on account of the gypsy moth.

"Dealers here seem to be generally of the opinion that it is going to be a rather difficult proposition to get anything like a normal supply of New England Christmas trees this year, and, as they have always looked to that section for the bulk of their supplies, they are more or less disturbed on account of the situation. Some of them are making arrangements to get their supplies from Northern Michigan and Wisconsin, and talk is heard of large shipments from Canada.

"It now appears that Christmas trees are going to be very high this year, as it is believed almost too late to get enough trees from other sections to take care of the deficiency that will be created by the elimination of large quantities of New England trees. Four years ago a shortage of Christmas trees was caused by labor shortage in the Northern woods, and on Christmas Eve those who had not previously purchased found themselves confronted with the choice of paying five or six dollars for the poorest kind of a tree or doing without. At that time there was considerable criticism in the local newspapers, the general opinion being that these high prices were the result of an unfair combination on the part of the Christmas tree dealers."

E. W. Stillwell.



## TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	O. L. Brown	Pears* Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions Celery	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 28 Sept. 28 Oct. 15	Nov. 3* Oct. 13* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 15 Jan. 15 Dec. 1
PRESQUE ISLE, MT. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 17	Mar. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
GRAND FORKS, N. DAK. 206 Federal Bldg.	845	J. W. Park	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Mar. 1
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples* Onions	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	Apr. 30 Nov. 15* Dec. 29

\* Reports discontinued.

Following are in Chicago:

\*\* State Dept. cooperating

F. H. Scruggs in Boston.  
G. A. DeHaven in Kansas City;  
returns to Chicago by Nov. 22.  
S. D. Main in Philadelphia.

W. J. Bertush  
V. D. Callanan  
J. D. Evers  
R. E. Lamb  
C. E. Schultz  
J. G. Scott

(KEEP THIS LIST. IT MAY NOT BE PUBLISHED AGAIN FOR SEVERAL WEEKS.)

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK NOV. 5-10, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time			Total Number		
		Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed Posted Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>							
New York - Misc.	R	12:50	1:36	46	11	6,615	385
Baltimore -Misc.		1:28	2:26	58	20	930	500
Washington-Misc.		1:10	2:40	90	10	2,160	--
Boston - Misc.	M	1:23	3:00	97	15	4,420	185
Atlanta - Misc.	Q	11:49	1:27	98	13	4,056	--
Philadelphia-Misc.	R	1:29	3:16	107	17	18,092	505
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>							
St. Louis- Misc.	Q	12:23	12:37	14	12	4,400	135
Pittsburgh-Misc.		12:29	12:53	24	10	2,205	49
Cincinnati-Misc.	Q	12:25	12:55	30	10	4,605	181
Chicago- Misc.		11:56	12:27	31	22	8,000	6,400
Kansas City-Misc.		12:01	12:37	36	10	3,350	995
Minneapolis-Misc.	R	1:27	2:15	48	24	10,442	132
Fort Worth- Misc.		12:44	1:42	58	14	1,866	312
Denver- Misc.	R	12:24	3:02	158	10	10,700	--
Washington (Nat'l)	BFKMQR	P'nuts.	Ship.Infm.		85	34,642	1,139
TOTAL		12:43#	1:47#	64#	283	114,483	10,968
" previous week		12:54#	1:51#	57#	298	120,389	5,203

## WESTERN OFFICES (OCT. 29-NOV. 3)

San Francisco-Misc.	BMR	4:07	5:00	53	23	3,200	--
Los Angeles - Misc.	R Ship.Infm.	4:11	5:15	64	17	12,570	--
Salt Lake City-Misc.		3:34	4:57	83	10	1,561	--
Portland - Misc.		2:27	4:24	117	14	6,740	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				13,266		4,769,969	254,633

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK NOV. 5-10, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Grand Forks -	R	1:00	2:41	2,629	438	10	--
Grand Rapids -	BMR	1:43	2:58	11,086	1,680	4	--
Idaho Falls -	R	1:13	2:39	8,700	1,425	--	--
Presque Isle -	R	1:59	3:12	11,916	1,985	1	--
*Sacramento -	K	3:51	4:33	6,890	1,148	--	--
Rochester -	BFHMR	2:36	3:46	6,958	1,017	2	--
Spokane -	B	12:01	2:34	13,637	2,210	1	--
Waupaca -	R	12:31	2:19	7,395	1,233	2	--
TOTAL		1:37#	2:05#	69,211	# Average time.		
" previous week		2:05#	3:29#	71,294	* Reports for Oct. 29-Nov. 3		
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				1,650,918			

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 -6,675,520.



INSPECTION SERVICE
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1c. WATCH TYPE-DESIGNATION OF NEW YORK CABBAGE.

The following wire from E. E. Conklin, Jr., Supervising Inspector at Cortland, N. Y., should be carefully considered by all Inspectors:

"SUGGEST INSPECTORS BE WARNED TO BE ESPECIALLY CAREFUL IN CERTIFYING TYPE OF NEW YORK CABBAGE. MUCH DANISH STOCK RUNS VERY FLAT THIS SEASON ACCOUNT EXTREMELY DRY WEATHER DURING GROWING SEASON. HEADS APPEAR VERY MUCH LIKE DOMESTIC IN SHAPE AND ARE ONLY REASONABLY HARD BUT HAVE TYPICAL DANISH REGULAR OUTLINE AND TIGHT LEAF MARGINS."

2c. SHIPPING-POINT WORK IN FLORIDA.

Reports from Robert Bier indicate that the shipping-point work in Florida is getting a good start. Inspections of citrus fruit have been started at Clearwater for W. E. Lee Company, and at Talemtto for the Joseph Gentile Company. The particular call for inspections at the present time is to get certificates for use on the f.o.b. auctions. The following men have already gone to Florida or are en route, for the purpose of supervising this work at shipping points: Robert Bier, A. E. Mercker, O. G. Strauss, P. D. Rupert, B. E. Shaffer, and F. E. Hooper.

3c. WIRING CAR NUMBERS.

In order to avoid any possible misunderstanding when wiring car numbers, each digit of the number should be mentioned separately except the numbers between nine and twenty, and the last two- if ending in a cipher- which may be given as a single word, such as twenty, thirty, etc. Words like "twenty" should never be used in the beginning or in the middle of a car number, for fear of confusion with the next figure. Several misunderstandings in car numbers have occurred from this cause during the past week. One Inspector reported "fifty four naught fifty seven," meaning 504057. Another Inspector wired "fifty five twenty four two," meaning 55242. If the rule suggested above be followed in wiring car numbers, there will be no confusion. Always reread your wires in order to see whether there is any possibility of misunderstanding at the other end.

4c. MAKING TOTALS ON F.P.I.-11 and 11a CORRESPOND.

It sometimes happens that large lots of fruit or vegetables are inspected in storage or when received as imports, and a single certificate is issued on the entire lot. The number of certificates issued and the number of carlots reported do not then correspond. In the future, it is requested that an explanation of such cases be given on the bottom of F.P.I.-11, so that the total as shown on the monthly report will correspond with the carlot product inspections reported on Form 11a. Otherwise, this office is unable to keep the record of the number of carlots of each product inspected by months and for the year.

5c. SAMPLES OF WASHINGTON APPLES.

During the past week, four boxes containing samples showing the minimum color of apples for various varieties and for the Extra Fancy and Fancy grades have been sent out to different offices. It will be necessary for these samples to be passed from one office to another, in order that all may have an opportunity of seeing the basis on which minimum color is being judged in the State of Washington.

Some of these apples were selected by inspectors in Yakima under the direction of Mr. Close, and others were selected in Wenatchee under the direction of Mr. Kinsey and the District Horticulturist.

The first impression which Inspectors will get from samples of this kind is that the color is entirely too low to be satisfactory for good commercial delivery. It is agreed that, if all apples in a lot were as low in color as the samples submitted, the lot would not be acceptable, nor would it be passed either at shipping point or receiving point as meeting the color requirements. It should be remembered, however, that the fixing of the minimum requirements for any grade does not contemplate that lots will be packed which show only the minimum requirements. The lot as a whole will contain apples ranging all the way from the minimum for that grade to the minimum of the next grade above, or to 100% in the case of Extra Fancy. In the case of Fancy Jonathans, it is likely that the average color for most lots will be somewhere between 40 and 50%. The samples selected were chosen as representing the very lowest color which would be accepted in the poorest packs which meet grade requirements. They do not represent good commercial practice, for no good packer would permit apples with as low color as those shown in the sample to be admitted to these grades. Occasional lots will, however, be found which show specimens of as low color as that in the samples submitted.

I saw several hundred lots of apples in the State of Washington but did not see a lot which contained any considerable percentage of apples of as low a color as these samples.

I did, however, see several very good lots which would have been thrown out of grade, if the specimens with the color shown by submitted samples had been added to the defects.

In judging these samples, therefore, it should not be concluded that the Inspectors in Washington are passing as up to grade packs containing any considerable percentage of apples with such low color. Lots of good average color should not, however, be thrown out of grade because of a few apples like the samples submitted, when such would bring the total grade defects above the tolerance. This is in recognition of the principle that, when you have a border line case, the general appearance of the lot as a whole will govern the final decision.

F. G. ROBB,  
Specialist in Inspection.



## INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1923.

MARKETS	Total Fruits C/L/& L.C.L.	Total Vege- tables C/L & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total same month 1922	Inspec- tions for Car- riers	Declin- ed for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certif- cate Copy Fees
Atlanta	41	73	114	51	5	2	\$ 418	\$ 5.00	\$ 20
Baltimore	11	19	30	51	3	0	128	5.00	-
Boston	71	31	102	97	18	11	396	7.50	9
Buffalo	45	16	61	51	4	1	228	10.00	-
Chicago	136	151	287	328	16	4	1236	2.50	40
Cincinnati	26	23	49	63	1	2	192	5.00	3
Cleveland	34	40	74	70	9	1	288	5.00	12
Columbus	40	18	58	27	9	1	224	5.00	1
Denver	6	1	7	8	-	-	28	-	8
Detroit	32	21	53	76	18	0	208	2.50	2
Fort Worth	23	11	34	22	-	-	132	-	-
Harrisburg	0	3	3	1	-	-	12	-	-
Houston	18	19	37	16	-	-	116	12.50	-
Indianapolis	8	30	38	34	1	-	152	-	3
Kansas City	55	19	74	74	5	-	284	5.00	2
Memphis	33	12	45	47	9	-	176	2.50	16
Milwaukee	20	14	34	112	-	-	120	10.00	-
Minneapolis	41	45	86	92	-	-	344	-	1
New Haven	50	12	62	-	-	7	216	20.00	3
New Orleans	45	100	145	121	79	1	488	57.50	18
New York	722	74	796	633	113	49	2996	125.00	12
Norfolk	28	31	59	33	9	4	232	2.50	2
Omaha	11	12	23	17	2	1	92	-	3
Philadelphia	29	44	73	409	-	3	268	15.00	4
Pittsburgh	195	113	308	188	188	12	1184	27.50	36
Portland	8	22	30	-	-	3	112	5.00	-
Salt Lake City	0	3	3	-	-	-	12	-	-
St. Louis	34	115	149	204	60	1	572	15.00	31
Washington	25	22	47	42	11	-	180	5.00	27
Wilkes-Barre	15	3	18	10	5	6	72	-	4
TOTAL	1802	1097	2899	2877	565	109	\$11,136	\$350.00	\$257

## RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections ..... 1802 | Inspections for Carriers.. 565  
 TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections . 1097 | Declined for lack of time 109  
 Grand Total C/L and L.C.L. Inspections... 2899 | Total Fees Assessed..\$11,750.50

\* The Total Fees Assessed include \$7.50 for inspection of a mixed car at Pittsburgh.

The total of 796 inspections by the New York office is the highest monthly record ever made by any market. Previous high mark was 705 inspections in Pittsburgh during May, 1922.

## INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING OCTOBER, 1923

Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps	Total		ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS										"Cuts" made to comply with spec- ifications	Items billed short- weight
	Number of Inspection		Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED							
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	
BOSTON	253		174546		835		175381		591		0			
		9		6145		0		6145		0			0	
NEW YORK	347		276832		47248		324080		1043		0			
		41		162044		1620		163664		8			0	
NORFOLK	19		28125		1800		29925		0		0			
		-		-		-		-		-			-	
PHILADELPHIA	225		199603		8235		207838		915		0			
		23		16256		170		16426		21			0	
SAN DIEGO	**		495916		6192		502108		164		53			
		105		81567		15		81582		0			0	
SAN FRANCISCO	231		409855		41630		451485		0		0			
		-		-		-		-		-			-	
SAN PEDRO	**		455647		15596		471243		188		0			
		-		-		-		-		-			-	
TOTALS	1075		2040524		121536		2162060		2901		53			
		178		266012		1805		267817		29			0	

\*\* No record of number of inspections.

In addition to the above, the following items were inspected at San Pedro:

	Accepted	Rejected
Bread .....	25,256 lbs.	500 lbs.
Butter .....	21,088 "	2,680 "
Cheese .....	4,501 "	1,332 "

The New York office also inspected 204,292 lbs. of fruit and 433,851 lbs. of vegetables for the United States Lines. Of the total of 638,143 lbs. inspected, 12,458 lbs. were rejected. For the Munson Steamship Lines, 20,485 lbs. of fruit and 228,068 lbs. of vegetables were inspected. Of this total of 248,553 lbs., 1,435 lbs. were rejected.

The Norfolk office made 21 inspections for the U. S. Shipping Board, amounting to 63,940 lbs. of fruit and vegetables passed, 9,000 rejected, 72,940 total quantity inspected. Cuts made to meet specifications amounted to 340 lbs. Items billed short-weight - 2. The estimated saving in connection with rejections, "cuts" and "items billed short-weight" account inspection, was \$121.



OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman was in Mississippi early this week, endeavoring to make arrangements for shipping-point inspection work. His southern trip has had to be shortened, by reason of the necessity of his return to Washington by next Monday, November 19, to attend a court trial in this city.

A. E. Mercker left Salt Lake City yesterday on his return trip East. He will stop off at Chicago one day and will spend a couple of days in Washington, before going on his new assignment in Florida, where he will assist in supervising shipping-point inspections.

The third Inspector to go to Florida was P. D. Rupert, who left Washington last evening. W. H. Steinbauer will come from the New York office this Friday, to take up the local inspection work in Washington.

Two more Inspectors are en route to Florida: B. E. Shaffer is driving from Chicago by automobile, and F. E. Hooper left New York City yesterday. Headquarters of each of these men in Florida will be announced later.

R. S. Lumbard expects to resume work in the Kansas City office of the Market News Service on Saturday. George A. DeHaven, who has been substituting as market reporter in that city, will remain until about the middle of next week and then return to his headquarters in Chicago, where he will complete the course of training in inspection work.

Turkeys will be included temporarily in the market reports secured by W. D. Googe at Fort Worth and Dallas. These special prices will be furnished J. Austen Hunter, at the Austin office, who will incorporate them in his bulletins on the turkey market.

From November 10 to 24, J. H. Hoover is on leave at 211 N. Phillips Street, Salina, Kans. On the 27th, he will report for duty at Austin, Texas, where he will confer with State authorities before going to the Lower Rio Grande Valley to supervise inspections of vegetables.

R. M. Ferguson, of the Minneapolis inspection staff, is assisting with the work in Chicago for a few days.

Two other Inspectors to return to Chicago this week are J. E. Dickerson and Nathaniel Farnworth. Mr. Dickerson has completed the onion inspections around Knox, Indiana, and Mr. Farnworth has finished the work on apples at Tonganoxie, Kansas.

V.V. Westgate has now returned to his headquarters at Omaha. Most of the inspections on Nebraska potatoes have been completed, and recent severe freezes, with zero temperature at some points, terminated the digging of this crop. Mr. Westgate will continue to supervise the work at shipping points throughout the State, visiting local inspectors when necessary, but he will be in Omaha practically all of the time.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

H. V. DeMott, auditor for the Domestic Wool Section, is at Oella, Md., today, examining the 1918 records of woolen mill at that point.

Last Saturday, Miss Margaret Gachet, formerly of Mr. Fiske's section, was married to Ira S. Taylor, of this city. They are living at the Conard Apartments, 13th and Eye Streets, N. W.

Miss Opal V. Yeoman, of Lincoln, Nebr., has been appointed to a clerical position in the Domestic Wool Section. Mrs. Nettie Horton, formerly of Mr. Clay's section, also is assisting for the present with work on the wool account. J. M. McLaughlin, who had been tabulating reports of the refrigerator car companies up-town, is now on the early morning force in Mr. Patton's section, tabulating telegraphic reports of shipments, and Miss Cecelia Bauman has gone from Mr. Patton's section to Mr. Fiske's staff.

S. F. Shreve, of the Baltimore office, went to Hagerstown, Md., last Monday, to inspect six carloads of cabbage. W. E. Harrison, market reporter in Baltimore, visited the Washington office yesterday. In addition to four stencils each day, Mr. Harrison's force is kept quite busy preparing special reports for newspapers, etc. One wholesale dealer in Baltimore is now having the daily market reports mimeographed on his own letter-heads, for distribution to a private mailing list.

En route to Washington, R. R. Pailthrop will take a few days' leave at Philadelphia. He is expected to reach Washington by Monday, November 19.

A very complete review of the Chicago cantaloupe market was issued by W. H. Hall under date of November 5. Copies can be secured from Chicago office.

Do You Get the Point?

Material fastened with pins is often unpleasant to handle because of points left exposed. The point of a pin should always be stuck under the top sheet of paper. (This is an important hint for all offices.)



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 46  
November 22, 1923  
(Contents Confidential)

1a. MARKET NEWS CONFERENCE.

Replies to the memorandum sent all Market News men under date of November 6 have, for the most part, contained many excellent suggestions for subjects for a conference, and after carefully going over them it has been decided definitely to hold such a conference the second or third week in December. The exact date will depend upon when the Market News men now taking the inspection training at Chicago will be available. It will be impossible for all Market News men to be present at this conference, but it is hoped to bring to Washington at least fifteen men. The conference probably will not last more than three days. The exact dates and the names of the men who will attend will be announced later.

Within a few days a fairly definite program will be drafted and a number of field and market station men will be assigned definite topics to handle and will be held responsible for their presentation at the conference. It is expected that the subjects<sup>to</sup> be discussed will be grouped in three general classes: First, standardization as it relates to the securing and the preparation of market and f.o.b. reports and the meaning of the terms normally employed in them; second, the development of new means of distribution of our information through the press, by radio and by other means; and third, a discussion of the relation of the work of this Division and the work of other Divisions in the Bureau. Further details of the conference will be announced from time to time.

2a. OVER A MILLION DOLLARS PAID TO NEW YORK FRUIT GROWERS.

During the fiscal year ending May 31, 1923, the fruit sales of the Western New York Fruit Growers' Cooperative Packing Association, Inc., Rochester, N. Y., amounted to \$1,807,448. The principal products handled, the quantity of each, and the approximate returns to growers, were as follows:

Fruit	Quantity	Net Proceeds
Apples	1,320,000 bu.	\$1,002,000
Peaches	189,700 "	67,400
Pears	200,000 "	147,700
Prunes and Plums	31,000 "	24,500
Grapes	100,000 lbs.	2,500

The total payments to growers amounted to \$1,244,400. The deductions from gross sales were \$563,018. The largest single item among the deductions was one of \$205,920 for storage. Another item of considerable size was \$87,527 for freight, detention and demurrage.

(from "Agricultural Cooperation")

MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING MIMEOGRAPH WORK.

As Mimecon ink #590 is much thinner than #767 ink, it should be applied to the mimeograph drum rather sparingly. Furthermore, the can of ink always should be shaken vigorously before being poured into the fountain in order to obtain an even mixture. Failure to do so will result in pale printing due to lack of sufficient coloring material. When using either kind of ink, cans should be drained thoroughly.

If stencils become dry, apply a thorough coating of dermax a day or so before they are used. The dermax will restore their freshness.

Operators should be thoroughly familiar with the detailed instructions contained in the "Mimeograph Manual." This manual not only explains the mechanism of the machine but gives valuable instructions regarding the cutting of stencils and the operation of the mimeograph. Copies may be procured upon application to the Washington office.

2b. WIDER DISTRIBUTION OF MARKET NEWS IN NEW YORK STATE.

The Division of Information is reviewing the market news work of the Bureau and assisting different offices in extending the various agencies of distribution. F. F. George, of that Division, recently visited our offices in New York City and Rochester, and also conferred with editors of newspapers in Syracuse, Utica and Buffalo.

Most of the papers in Buffalo, and Syracuse agreed to publish the daily shipment report, issued by Mr. Brown, of the Rochester office. This is sent by special delivery mail every morning to those dailies and to papers published at Oswego and Lockport, N.Y. It also appears in the Rochester papers. Other dailies use Mr. Brown's afternoon releases and his weekly reviews. His monthly review is sent to the Farm Bureau News in 14 counties, and the special weekly review goes to about 25 daily and weekly papers.

In New York City, arrangements were started between our Market News office and the State Dept. of Farms and Markets for the publication twice a week of a report showing prices and movements at Boston, Philadelphia, and other near-by points, this report to be distributed throughout New York State over Associated Press wires.

3b. TEXAS TOMATOES AND CABBAGE.

According to reports from W. D. Googe, of the Fort Worth office, carlot shipments of matured green wrapped tomatoes are now moving from South Texas. Principal shipping points are Crystal City, Asherton and Carrizo Springs. F. o. b. cash track prices a few days ago were \$1.50-1.70 per California lug and \$1.10-1.15 per four-basket crate. About 40 or 50 carloads are expected between now and December 15, provided the weather does not get too cold.

Express shipments of cabbage have been reaching Fort Worth from the southern part of Texas during the past two weeks and carlot movement is now beginning. The stock is reported to be of excellent quality and well-headed for Texas cabbage, bringing about \$40 per ton f.o.b.



4b. IDAHO FALLS POTATO GROWERS ISSUE ANNUAL REPORT.

Five hundred thirty-five cars of potatoes were shipped during the 1922-23 season by the Idaho Falls Potato Growers, Idaho Falls, Idaho. The Association was incorporated on March 31, 1922, possibly the first organization effected under the Idaho cooperative marketing law, and its fiscal year begins with July 1. Handling of potatoes was begun September 1, 1922. Arrangements were made with two sales agencies, one to handle the shipments going east and the other those going west, on a consignment basis. This plan proved very unsatisfactory and the dealers were persuaded to permit the Association to do its own selling. The manager recommends that this plan be adopted in the future, also that the pooling system be adopted. The Association has 254 members and on June 1, 1923, had an actual net worth of \$16,445. A reserve fund now amounts to \$3,745. Organization expenses amounted to over \$3,300.

The president of the Association at the first annual meeting said among other things: "We have arrived at the point where we are under obligations to no man and what we have accomplished we have as farmers done ourselves, and we can stand with our heads erect and show the world that we can do our own business if we so desire."

(from "Agricultural Cooperation")

5b. ORANGES FROM CALIFORNIA.

In a letter of November 16, O. W. Holmes, the State representative in the San Francisco office, tells about the first shipments of California navel oranges:

"On November 6 the first three cars of Navel oranges were received at San Francisco for exporting. The first car for the local market was received on the 10th. Since that time six additional cars arrived for the local market. The first car of Sunkist Navel oranges, shipped by the California Fruit Growers' Exchange, was received yesterday and was quoted at \$5.75 to \$6.00 per box. Arrival of these oranges was about two weeks ahead of the season last year. Export demand for new California Navels continues brisk, according to local representatives. Approximately 15,000 boxes will be sent on a steamer which is scheduled to sail for New Zealand toward the latter part of this month. Valencia oranges are well cleaned up on this market and dealers do not expect any additional arrivals this season."

6b. CHANGE IN TABLE FOR WEEKLY REVIEW.

In the Weekly Review table showing f.o.b. prices at shipping points, varieties of the different products will be shown hereafter. Telegraph operators receiving the Review should bear this in mind, so as to insert the variety name after each product heading.

E. W. STILLWELL,

Specialist in Market News.

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK NOV. 12-17, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed Posted Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
New York- Misc. R	12:35	1:26	51	11	6,547	1,708
Baltimore- Misc.	1:31	2:27	56	19	956	500
Atlanta- Misc. Q	11:19	12:18	59	13	5,293	--
Philadelphia- Misc. R	1:12	2:12	60	16	18,100	510
Washington- Misc.	1:20	2:45	85	10	2,170	--
Boston - Misc. M	1:15	3:00	105	15	4,520	775
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
St. Louis- Misc. Q	12:29	12:48	19	13	4,455	--
Chicago - Misc.	11:50	12:15	25	21	8,000	5,100
Pittsburgh- Misc.	12:18	12:44	26	10	2,710	49
Kansas City- Misc. Honey	12:10	12:37	27	11	5,080	325
Cincinnati- Misc. Q	12:26	12:57	31	10	4,605	181
Fort Worth- Misc.	1:18	1:51	33	12	1,551	--
Minneapolis- Misc. R	1:22	2:23	61	24	9,762	132
Denver - Misc. R	12:17	3:04	167	22	12,595	--
Washington- (Nat'l) BFMQR, P'nuts, Honey, Ship. Infm.	78	26,236		78	26,236	1,140
TOTAL	12:40#	1:38#	58#	285	112,580	10,420
" previous week	12:43#	1:47#	64#	283	114,483	10,968
<u>WESTERN OFFICES (NOV. 5-10)</u>						
San Francisco- Misc. BMR	4:09	5:58	49	23	3,210	--
Los Angeles- Misc. R. Ship	4:09	5:57	50	18	11,460	--
Salt Lake City- Misc.	3:36	4:46	70	10	1,835	--
Portland- Misc.	4:43	6:46	123	17	8,440	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				13,619	4,907,494	265,053

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK NOV. 12-17, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)		Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
		Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			In- crease	De- crease
Grand Forks- R		1:32	3:01	3,401	566	29	--
Grand Rapids- BMR		1:48	2:49	9,236	1,580	--	6
Idaho Falls - R		1:24	2:50	7,250	1,425	--	--
Presque Isle- R		1:50	3:03	9,963	1,913	--	4
Rochester- BFHR		2:41	3:48	7,222	1,024	1	--
*Sacramento- K		3:50	4:35	6,870	1,145	--	--
Spokane - B		12:05	2:43	13,677	2,218	--	--
Waupaca - R		12:48	1:58	7,410	1,235	--	--
TOTAL		1:45#	3:06#	65,029	# Average time		
" previous week		1:37#	2:05#	69,211	* Reports for Nov. 5-10		
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				1,715,947			

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1 -6,888,494





INSPECTION SERVICE1c. MORE NEWS FROM FLORIDA.

A letter of November 17 from Robert Bier, Orlando, Florida, says that "business is beginning to pick up." Mr. Rupert and Mr. Hooper arrived on the 16th. The former has been sent to Sanford, to start inspections of lettuce. Palmetto is also offering lettuce tonnage. Mr. Hooper has been stationed at Clearwater. Mr. Strauss will be used chiefly on the citrus work. During the first week, with the assistance of only two new men, about 35 carloads of citrus fruit had been inspected.

2c. TYPES OF NEW YORK CABBAGE.

Writing under date of November 19, E. E. Conklin, Jr., makes these additional statements concerning the different types of cabbage in central New York:

"In Cortland County, where we are having the most trouble regarding cabbage types, we are becoming more and more convinced that much stock which might casually be classed as Domestic is really Danish type. Most of the trouble is with the Danish Ballhead type. A large part of the stock runs flatter this season than common. Heads which you would expect to be this shape  are instead like this , that is, not over two-thirds as thick as usual. They have quite typical close-growing leaves and leaf margins. All stock runs light weight, so this is not a safe test. The light weight and flat shape are thought to be due to the long dry spell.

"We find also a lesser amount of large, light, some loosely-growing Danish Roundhead stock, which looks somewhat like Copenhagen Market. Often it is impossible to tell this for certain, except by cutting the heads. This seems to be about the best checking method. We find that, although some of the flat heads may appear like Flat Dutch, on cutting it is very easy to distinguish them. The Danish stock, when cut lengthwise through the stump, keeps its outer leaves intact, has a fairly-round even outline, and always shows some yellow thin papery compact leaves inside, while Domestic, when cut, shows the outer leaves at the crown readily falling apart, the outline is angular, and the leaves all about the same thickness and not compactly layered together.

"No doubt seed is badly mixed at some points, but most cars loaded in our districts show not more than a few heads of distinctly Domestic-type stock. We believe that, when in doubt, the cutting method is the safest one and, even then, a loose growth cannot be taken as indicating Domestic type.

"One shipper at Skaneateles furnished Danish Ballhead seed to growers in Cortland and Onondaga counties. The stock in Cortland County is about as flat as any we see and quite light, while that in Onondaga County near Skaneateles is typically round and hard, from the same seed."

3c. SPECIAL RULING ON PEANUT INSPECTIONS.

Inspection offices in the following cities are now equipped to handle inspection of peanuts:

Atlanta	Columbus	Minneapolis
Boston	Detroit	New York
Buffalo	Kansas City	Omaha
Chicago	Los Angeles	Philadelphia
Cincinnati	Memphis	Pittsburgh
Cleveland	Milwaukee	St. Louis

The following memorandum is of importance to all these offices:-

Peanut shippers are confronted with serious losses due to the inclusions of discolored peanuts in the percentage of "damaged" nuts. Trading rules provide that 7% reduction from invoice price shall be made for each percentage of damaged nuts in excess of the tolerance. There is serious question as to whether the discoloration of the outer skin should be counted as damaging the nuts. Pending final decision of this point, inspectors should give the percentage of nuts with discolored skins separate from the percentage of damaged nuts. Nuts showing discoloration extending deeper than the skin should be included as "damaged nuts." These two percentages should be added in determining the total percentage of "damaged or mouldy peanuts."

This method of reporting percentages will make it possible for the shippers to provide a special allowance for the discolored but sound nuts, and these will not be included in the allowances made for damaged nuts. This will be handled by individual contract until definite agreement is reached between representatives of shippers, receivers and this Department, covering the application of U. S. Grades to lots showing skin discoloration. You will be advised as soon as such an agreement is reached.

4c. TENTATIVE GRADES FOR ORANGES.

A copy of the Tentative U. S. Grades for Oranges is being sent to each Inspector with this Division Letter. In the near future, similar grades for Grapefruit will be distributed. These are especially important in connection with the work now being done at shipping points in citrus producing sections.

F. G. ROBB,  
Specialist in Inspection.



OFFICE NOTES:

Thursday, November 29, is Thanksgiving Day. All offices will observe it as a holiday.

Mr. Sherman returned to his desk on Monday. He made tentative arrangements for shipping-point inspection work next season with the State Dept. of Agriculture in Alabama, subject to a ruling of the State Attorney General on certain legal points. Considerable interest in and desire for this service was expressed in Louisiana and Mississippi, but in neither of these States is there the necessary legislation on the books to enable us to effect cooperative agreements on inspection work.

A. E. Mercker was in Washington early this week. He proceeded to New York and will be on leave for a while, before going to Florida to help with the shipping-point inspection service.

Because of heavy work in New Orleans, Nathaniel Farnworth has been sent to that office to assist Inspector C. R. Newton for a short period. A little later, Mr. Farnworth will proceed to Florida and join the corps of supervisors in that State.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., who has been supervising the work at shipping points in New York, came to Washington this morning for the purpose of talking over that special inspection service with project leaders in this office.

Next Monday, W. L. Evans, of the Domestic Wool Section, and J. S. Bohannon, of the Solicitor's Office, plan to go to Philadelphia for the hearing of demurrers filed by three wool dealers, from whom the Department is seeking to collect excess profits.

Word from J. Austen Hunter, of the Texas Radio Market News Service, indicates that the spinach crop in South Texas will be moving in fair volume about December 15. One packing shed near Austin plans to open the first week of December. Market reports on this product likely will be started in Texas about January 1.

To avoid all further confusion as to the names of f.o.b. auction companies, please note that the National Auction Company, started in Pittsburgh, recently changed its name to the National F.O.B. Auction Company. The concern which started in Chicago is simply The F.O.B. Auction Company.

A letter /<sup>from</sup> Mr. Hackleman, of the New York office, tells of the sudden death of the wife of M. L. Benn last Saturday night, while Mr. and Mrs. Benn and other friends were attending a social event. Funeral services were held on Wednesday morning and interment was in the Sleepy Hollow Cemetery at Tarrytown, N.Y. A number of members of the New York inspection staff attended the funeral.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Friends of James P. Klein, who was connected with the News Service in its early history, will be interested to learn that he is on the teaching staff of Ozark Wesleyan College at Marionville, Mo.

Announcement has been received of the marriage of Miss Jeanette Wollmer, of the San Francisco office, to Mr. Shelby L. York of that city, on November 10. Miss Wollmer was recently transferred to San Francisco from the Bureau of Plant Industry in Washington.

B. C. Boree spent the past two days at Norfolk, Va. arranging with Mr. Henderson, the Inspector at that point, to secure f.o.b. reports on spinach and other products shipped from the Norfolk section. At times, the regular inspection work may keep Mr. Henderson so busy that he will be unable to get f.o.b. reports; this will explain any irregularity that may occur. Mr. Boree also visited one of the important peanut firms at Norfolk.

The radio receiving set, which was tried out unsuccessfully at Portland, has been transferred to Los Angeles. Some difficulty is being experienced at present in getting the radio reports which are broadcast from San Francisco, but it is expected that these difficulties will soon be overcome.

R. R. Pailthorp reached Washington a few days ago, and is now located in Mr. Samson's section. He will put into definite shape the data secured in the Pacific Northwest on the extent and causes of rejections of apple shipments.

C. W. Hauck and H. A. Spilman were in Baltimore on Monday. Mr. Hauck presented the proposed Federal grades for cannery tomatoes to representatives of the Maryland Farm Bureau organization and received their approval of the grades. Mr. Spilman was successful in securing approval of the three-quarter bushel hamper in place of the five-eighths bushel hamper now in general use.

Wm. E. Lewis, who has been in the field doing investigational work on the Federal grades for northern-grown onions, is expected to return to Washington this Friday.

J. E. M. Gantt, mimeograph operator in Washington injured his back about two weeks ago and was not able to return to work until this morning.

NO DIVISION LETTER WILL BE ISSUED DURING THANKSGIVING WEEK. The next paper will be dated December 6.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 47

December 6, 1923

(Contents Confidential)

NO DIVISION LETTER WAS ISSUED FOR NOV. 29.

1a. MARKET NEWS CONFERENCE.

Definite arrangements have been concluded for holding the conference of Market News men in Washington December 10, 11 and 12. The following men will attend:-

E. R. Biddle, of Philadelphia.	W. H. Hall, of Chicago.
R. C. Bish, of Cleveland.	W. E. Harrison, of Baltimore.
J. K. Boyd, of Pittsburgh.	R. H. Lamb, of Cincinnati.
C. L. Brown, of Rochester.	O. D. Miller, of New York.
V. D. Callanan (field).	W. H. Mosier, of Waupaca.
T. C. Curry, of Atlanta.	R. M. Peterson, of Minneapolis.
J. D. Evers, of Boston.	C. E. Schultz (field).
V. G. Gibson, of St. Louis.	R. H. Shoemaker, of Grand Rapids.

The conference will open at 10 o'clock Monday morning, December 10, in the Conference Room on the fourth floor of the Bieber Building, where all the sessions will be held except the one on Wednesday afternoon. Messrs. Hall and Miller will arrive in Washington Saturday morning, in order to perfect plans for the conference and outline more definitely the program.

Arrangements are being made for representatives of the Division of Crop and Live Stock Estimates, the Division of Market Information, and the Section of Supplies and Accounts to take part in a discussion of certain phases of the work, and it is hoped that other Divisions also will be represented. It is probable that topics relating to work in market stations will be discussed first and will be followed by a discussion of field station work. No plans have been made for any social features in connection with the conference except that it is hoped to have all of the representatives take luncheon together each day.

The holding of this conference will not affect the work in any of the offices except possibly St. Louis and Baltimore, where curtailed programs may be necessary. The following men will be in charge of and will handle the work in the respective offices during the conference:

Atlanta.....G. A. DeHaven.	Minneapolis...R. M. Ferguson.
Boston.....F. H. Scruggs.	New York.....S. W. Russell.
Chicago.....W. J. Bertush & G. D. Clark.	Philadelphia..S. D. Main.
Cincinnati..L. H. Wulfekuhl.	Pittsburgh....J. G. Scott.
Grand Rapids.H.D. Wheeler.	Rochester.....A. L. Thomas.
	Waupaca.....M. M. Littleton.

An announcement of exact assignments after the conference cannot be made at this time.



#### 2a. GRADES AND PACKAGES.

On November 28, at Hotel du Pont, Wilmington, Del., C. W. Hauck presented the proposed Federal grades for cannery tomatoes to officers and members of the executive committee of the Tri-State Packers' Association. Those in attendance were the President and the Secretary of the Tri-State Association; the chairman of the Agricultural Committee; five members of the executive committee from the three States, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland; the Director of Extension Service in Delaware; a Plant Pathologist from the University of Delaware; a specialist in vegetable growing from New Brunswick, N.J., and the Director of the Raw Products Research Bureau, National Cannery Association. Mr. Hauck reports that the meeting resulted in a hearty endorsement of the principle of buying cannery tomatoes on grade, and the tentative standards submitted were approved with very minor changes of wording. The matter of official adoption of the grades will come before the annual meeting of the Tri-State Packers' Association at Philadelphia early this month.

H. A. Spilman also attended the meeting at Wilmington, and presented the proposed substitution of the 3/4 bushel hamper for the prevalent 5/8 bushel. On November 26 and 27, Mr. Spilman had visited Camden, Riverton and Moorestown, New Jersey, in the interest of this proposed standard package. More recently - on Tuesday of this week - he went to Philadelphia and addressed the Boosters' Club on this subject, and on Wednesday Mr. Spilman attended a similar meeting at Atlantic City. At Woodbury, N. J., this Saturday, he will confer with the Gloucester County Board of Agriculture. In every instance, the merits and demerits of the 5/8 bushel hamper are discussed, and if opposition to the omission of this container from pending legislation can be overcome, there seems to be clear sailing for the Standard Basket Bill, which will be presented again at the present session of Congress.

#### 3a. ALASKAN RUTABAGAS TO CALIFORNIA.

On November 21, the Los Angeles market received a shipment of sacked rutabagas from Haines, Alaska, via Seattle. The jobbing price was around \$2.50 per 100 pounds, which is considerably higher than usual. The dealer who handled this shipment received several carloads of rutabagas from Alaska last season, also, and reports that the stock is of very fine quality.

#### 4a. HANDLING LETTUCE IN THE SOUTH.

"Commercial Harvesting, Grading and Marketing of Lettuce in South Carolina" is the title of a new bulletin issued by Clemson Agricultural College of South Carolina in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture Extension Service. It treats the subject in a practical way, and contains a number of valuable illustrations. Interested persons probably can secure copies of this publication from Clemson College, S. C. It is known as Extension Bulletin 56.

#### 5a. APPLE SITUATION IN OREGON.

Having returned from his recent vacation in Oregon, C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office, described the apple situation around Medford in the following words:

"The apple men around Medford advertised in the papers for people to come and pick apples free of charge. The market is so poor that they would rather give them away than pay the charges of picking and packing. As a rule, though, the Newtowns ran very small in size, so they are probably wise in not shipping them. Some growers have started pulling out their apple trees, but this happens every year, and next year if prices are good they will start pulling the pears and setting out apples again."



MARKET NEWS SERVICE1b. ANOTHER AUCTION COMPANY IN CHICAGO.

Writing under date of December 4, W. H. Hall, of the Chicago office, tells of the formation of another company in that city:

"A new fruit and vegetable auction company has been organized under the name of Independent Fruit & Produce Auction Company of Chicago, and held its first sale on Monday, Dec. 3. It appears to be the outgrowth of dissatisfaction that has existed on the part of many local dealers and buyers because of what they term unfair practice on the part of the other delivered auction companies. Action in forming the new company may have been hastened somewhat by the consolidation of the two delivered auction companies-- the Chicago Green Fruit Auction Association and the Central Fruit Auction Co., both powerful organizations and controlled almost exclusively by a group of large produce dealers on South Water Street. A name has not been decided upon for the consolidated company.

"The formation of the new auction company has created quite a lot of excitement in the trade, and the consolidation of the two old companies has been of scarcely less interest. With the new organization bidding for independents, as well as trying to win over some of the accounts of the consolidated company (which is trying just as hard to extend its operations), some are predicting that the dawn of a new marketing era is at hand. Be that as it may, it seems almost sure that certain changes must take place that will prove beneficial to the fruit and vegetable industry. It is generally conceded that the machinery for marketing is too complicated and expensive, and, while the auction in itself may not be the proper solution, it certainly shortens the gap between producer and dealer and is a big step in the right direction. The local press has been playing up the auction situation prominently, and would have the public believe that, by reason of the formation of the new company, prices will be so low that it will seem like buying in pre-war days. It may have the result of temporarily lowering fruit prices in Chicago, but the Chicago market is bound to keep in line with other markets, because of the law of supply and demand."

2b. SATSUMAS AND CAULIFLOWER IN ST. LOUIS.

The following interesting letter was received from V. G. Gibson, of the St. Louis office, under date of November 23:

"A car of Satsuma oranges from Alabama, packed in 1/2 bushel-baskets, was sold on the auction today. This was the first car of Satsumas in 1/2 bushel containers ever received on this market.

"There were approximately 850 packages in the car and they sold very readily at \$1.55 to \$1.65, averaging \$1.62 for the car. This stock appeared to be in excellent condition, although rather irregular in size within the packages.

"Satsumas from Alabama have been coming in here for about two weeks, and have been packed in both bushel baskets and the standard so-called 'half straps.' The bushel baskets have been selling around \$3

(Continued over)



and the 'straps' at \$2.50 to \$3 in a jobbing way, although the movement has been somewhat slow.

"Today we had our first Illinois or (as is usually considered) homegrown cauliflower on this market. It was of excellent quality and the trade was well pleased with it. This cauliflower was packed in bushel baskets and was graded No. 1 and No. 2, the only difference in the quality of the grades being the size of heads. All of this stock would easily have met U. S. No. 1 grade; however, the trade seemed highly pleased with the idea of getting a package in which the stock was all approximately the same size.

"Instead of the leaves being trimmed slightly longer than the heads in order to protect them, as is done in the California and other western districts, this cauliflower had the leaves trimmed down so that about half the head was exposed above the leaves. It made a very attractive appearance and was moved very quickly at \$2.75 for the so-called No. 1, or packages containing 10 heads; the No. 2, or the packages containing 12 heads, sold at \$2.50."

3b. POTATO VARIETIES AND POTATO SHOW IN MICHIGAN.

R. H. Shoemaker, in charge of the Grand Rapids field station, sent the following information in a letter of November 24:

"The Russets from this State are often quoted as round whites, and are handled by receivers as such, when in reality they are not round whites but round Russets. It is quite probable that many receivers will insist that they are selling round white potatoes, when they are round Russets, purely because of the fact that many times they either do not or cannot distinguish between them, because of the russetting. There will be exceptional cases where the variety designation will be Irish Cobblers, Green Mountains, or White Rurals (Rural New Yorkers); but I understand that practically all of the crop of these varieties this year will be used for seed. The Michigan Potato Growers' Exchange advise that they have long ago sold every pound of Green Mountain seed which they had this season, and that they are turning down orders every day for seed of this variety.

"Second Annual Potato and Apple Show has just closed. Several innovations were tried out. The Michigan Potato Growers' Exchange exhibited samples of sacks of Rurals (both White and Russet), Russet Burbanks, Bliss, Irish Cobblers, and Green Mountains. The ladies visiting the show were asked to vote as to which sack they would prefer for their home use. As a result of this voting, the White Rural sack won first place, barely nosing out the Russet Burbank sample; a bright Russet Rural was third, and the Cobblers and Green Mountains tied for fourth place. The contest was prepared hurriedly, and in many respects the voting of the women was disappointing, as they voted heavier for some of the poorest samples than was anticipated, apparently choosing by looking at the pretty numbers, etc., much as they would choose a race horse. This may have been partially explained by the fact also that the different samples were not all the same size. Another season it is planned to have the different sacks of nearly the same size stock, possibly two samples of each, - one medium and the other of a larger baking size."



4b. POTATOES QUIET IN RED RIVER VALLEY.

In a letter of November 30, J. W. Park, who is issuing potato market reports at Grand Forks, N. Dak., described the present situation as follows:

"The majority of my f.o.b. wires during the past week or two have stated 'no sales reported or too few sales reported to quote'. The potato deal here seems to be at a standstill. Farmers who have gone to the expense of filling their root houses and basements are not inclined to haul their potatoes to market until there is some improvement in price. Shippers and dealers feel the same way, and those who have their storage houses filled are making no effort to sell at the present price level."

5b. NOTIFY WASHINGTON OF ERRORS.

Whenever you discover an apparent error or omission in any report or review issued from Washington, be sure to call it to our attention promptly. The Chicago office discovered a serious omission in the Weekly Review of November 20, and Mr. Hall recently wrote this office about the matter. It seems that an entire line of the Review was overlooked in sending the text over the Central Circuit. All stations on that circuit doubtless published one of the sentences in the apple paragraph as follows:

"Total shipments of western apples to November 17 had filled 14,000 cars, compared with 23,350 cars the first part of the 1922 season and with 40,800 in 1921."

The omitted words are underscored in this, the correct, rendering of the sentence in question:-

"Total shipments of western apples to November 17 had filled 14,000 cars more than to the same time last season. Aggregate output has been 37,575 cars, compared with 23,350 cars the first part of the 1922 season and with 40,800 in 1921."

Fortunately, such errors occur very rarely, and an omission like this may not happen again in a long while. Nevertheless, it is important that we know about it, when such slips do occur.

6b. SOUTH TEXAS TOMATOES.

In connection with Par. 3b of the last Division Letter, this further information was received in a wire from Mr. Googe, Fort Worth, on Nov. 30:

"South Texas tomatoes: Demand good, movement light. Carloads f.o.b. cash track, four-basket crates, green wrapped \$2.50-\$2.70. About 20 cars moved to date; 20 to 30 more to move, if not killed by frost."

E. W. STILLWELL,  
Specialist in Market News.

## TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears* Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions Celery	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 28 Sept. 28 Oct. 15	Nov. 3* Oct. 13* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 15 Jan. 15 Dec. 8
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 17	Mar. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
GRAND FORKS, N. DAK. 206 Federal Bldg.	843	J. W. Park	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Mar. 1
IDAH0 FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples* Onions#	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	Apr. 30 Nov. 15* Dec. 29

\* Reports discontinued.

\*\*State Dept. cooperating.

# Tri-weekly

F. H. Scruggs in Boston.  
G. A. DeHaven in Atlanta.  
S. D. Main in Philadelphia.  
W. J. Bertush in Chicago.  
J. G. Scott in Pittsburgh.

Following will be in Washington  
for Conference:

V. D. Callanan

J. D. Evers

R. H. Lamb

C. E. Schultz

(in addition to Messrs. Brown,  
Mosier and Shoemaker,  
and nine market station men.)



## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK NOV. 19-24, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time in Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed Posted Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
New York	Misc. R	12:47 1:24	37	11	6573	395
Baltimore-	Misc.	1:20 2:24	75	20	973	500
Atlanta-	Misc. Q	11:30 12:57	81	13	6049	--
Washington-	Misc.	1:15 2:40	85	10	2175	--
Philadelphia-	Misc. R	1:22 2:49	87	17	18100	505
Boston-	Misc. M	1:05 3:02	117	15	4532	200
<u>WESTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
Pittsburgh -	Misc.	12:46 1:02	16	10	2739	49
Chicago-	Misc.	11:28 11:59	21	19	8000	3400
Denver-	Misc. R	11:53 2:57	184	24	13007	--
St. Louis-	Misc. Q	12:39 1:04	25	12	4150	--
Cincinnati-	Misc. Q	12:27 12:54	27	10	4540	--
Kansas City-	Misc.	12:04 12:36	32	10	3375	1675
Fort Worth -	Misc.	1:21 1:58	37	14	1826	310
Minneapolis-	Misc. R	1:25 2:11	52	22	9774	132
Washington-(Nat'l)	BFMOR, P'nuts, Ship, Infm.			73	26240	1163
TOTAL		12:40# 1:43#	63#	280	113053	8129
" previous week		12:40# 1:38#	58#	285	112580	10420
<u>WESTERN OFFICES (Nov. 12-17)</u>						
San Francisco-	Misc.	4:19 5:06	47	24	6991	--
Los Angeles-	Misc. R Ship	4:16 5:12	56	17	11525	--
Salt Lake City-	Misc	2:31 4:06	95	10	2219	--
Portland-	Misc. EMLR	2:05 3:43	98	17	8675	--
TOTAL JAN 1 to date				13,967	5,049,957	273,182

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK NOV. 19-24, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop	Average Number Served	Mailing List Percentage of	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered		In- crease	De- crease
Grand Forks-	R	12:34 2:48	2415	569	1	-
Grand Rapids-	MR	1:19 2:00	7287	1156	-	27
Idaho Falls-	R	1:20 2:52	8700	1425	-	-
Presque Isle-	R	1:37 2:48	11969	1995	4	-
Rochester-	BFHMR	2:46 4:00	7799	1033	1	-
Spokane	B	12:37 3:30	13828	2221	-	-
Waupaca-	R	12:35 2:15	7917	1319	7	-
TOTAL		1:15# 2:53#	60915			
" previous week		1:45# 3:06#	65029			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			1776862			
# Average time						

7,100,001.

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN 1/

## RECORD OF WORK IN MARKET STATIONS WEEK NOV. 26-DEC. 1, INC. (REDUCED TO EAST. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time			Total Number		
	Last Crop Stencil Com- pleted	Last Bundle Mail Left Office	Elapsed Time In Mailing Reports	Stencils Cut (Crop Reports Only)	Crop Reports Mailed Posted, and Delivered	Special Reports Mailed Posted Delivered
<u>EASTERN CIRCUIT</u>						
New York -Misc. R	12:32	1:19	47	9	5256	1023
Baltimore Misc.	1:40	2:29	49	16	784	625
Philadelphia-Misc. R	1:28	2:18	50	13	14560	385
Atlanta- Misc. Q	11:45	12:49	64	11	4802	--
Washington- Misc.	1:20	2:45	85	8	1736	--
Boston- Misc. M	1:49	3:28	99	11	3511	200

WESTERN CIRCUIT

Pittsburgh- Misc.	12:28	12:48	20	8	2200	35
St. Louis- Misc.	12:40	1:04	24	10	3070	325
Cincinnati- Misc. Q	12:41	1:08	27	8	3750	181
Chicago- Misc.	1:00	1:30	30	16	3700	--
Ft. Worth- Misc.	12:44	1:20	36	12	1488	288
Minneapolis-Misc. R	1:22	1:58	36	15	8150	120
Kansas City-Misc.	12:12	1:06	54	8	2700	1350
Denver- Misc. R	11:52	2:22	150	18	10845	--
Washington (Mat'l) BFMQR P'nuts, Honey, Ship. Infm.	71				23967	1165
TOTAL	12:49#	1:44#	55#	234	90519	5697
" previous week	12:40#	1:43#	63#	280	113053	8129

WESTERN OFFICES (NOV. 19-24)

Los Angeles-Misc. R Ship.	4:02	4:55	53	18	11525	--
San Francisco-Misc-	4:02	5:00	58	25	5240	1060
Portland-Misc. BLMR	4:54	6:21	87	13	7165	--
Salt Lake-Misc.	3:03	4:36	93	10	2385	--
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date				14267	5166791	279939

## RECORD OF WORK IN FIELD STATIONS WEEK NOV. 26- DEC. 1, INC. (REDUCED TO CENT. TIME)

STATIONS (With Crops on which reports were issued.)	Average Time		Total Crop Reports Mailed Posted and Delivered	Average Number Served	Mailing List	
	Last Wire Received	Last Bundle Mail Left Office			Percentage of	
Grand Forks- R	12:35	2:42	2870	574	1	--
Grand Rapids- MR	1:15	2:17	5815	1157	--	--
Idaho Falls- R	1:33	3:05	7625	1500	5	--
Presque Isle- R	1:58	3:05	10001	2000	--	--
Rochester-Misc. BFHMR	2:39	3:45	5882	1046	1	--
Spokane- B	11:48	2:50	11789	2222	--	--
Waupaca- R	12:43	2:13	6796	1359	3	--
TOTAL	1:13#	2:51#	50778			
" previous week	1:15#	2:53#	60915			
TOTAL JAN. 1 to date			1827640	# Average Time		

TOTAL REPORTS ISSUED FROM MARKET AND FIELD STATIONS SINCE JAN. 1- 7,274,370



## INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. INSPECTION SITUATION IN FLORIDA.

Writing from Orlando on December 1, Robert Bier gives the following list of shippers for whom inspections are being made in Florida:

Gentile Bros. Co., Orlando (Clearwater).

W. E. Lee & Co., Plant City (Palmetto, Clearwater, Auburndale, and Lake Hamilton).

E. M. Thomas, Orlando (Winter Park).

Chester C. Fosgate & Co., Orlando.

Walker Bros., Orlando.

Fugazzi Bros., Clearwater.

J. E. Turner, Orlando.

We expect to add very soon:

Sloan Fruit Co., Tampa.

R. W. Burch, Plant City.

Alexander & Baird, Beresford.

West Coast Fruit Co., Clearwater

N. W. Peterson, Palmetto.

Chase & Co., Jacksonville.

LETTUCE Inspections are being made for following:

Florida Vegetable Corp., Sanford.

American Fruit Growers, Sanford.

Chase & Co., Sanford.

Sanford Truck Growers, Sanford.

Mr. Bier's letter continues: "We have inspected no boat shipments going to New York, but have no way of knowing because it is very easy to transship at Jacksonville to the Clyde Line. However, Lee is marking packages from his inspected houses with the 'U.S. No. 1' and 'U.S. No. 2' stamp. The citrus market is not very promising at the present time, with the result that shipments are being cut down."

In the form of a report up to December 1, Mr. Bier states that 195 cars of citrus fruit had been inspected at six shipping points and 152 cars of vegetables (mostly lettuce) at Sanford. The work around Sanford was begun on November 19, and is being directed by Mr. Rupert. The stations at which citrus has been inspected and the dates on which service was started are listed below:

<u>Station</u>	<u>Started</u>	<u>Cars</u>	<u>Station</u>	<u>Started</u>	<u>Cars</u>
Clearwater	Nov. 12	66	Lake Hamilton	Nov. 25	11
Palmetto	Nov. 12	56	Winter Park	Nov. 19	20
Auburndale	Nov. 21	22	Orlando	Nov. 19	20

Mr. Bier states further that they are doing enough business at present to train the personnel; are trying to pay their way, and to give the shippers an object lesson. Work will gradually increase and by January will be in full swing.

2c. INSPECTION WORK IN UTAH.

Shipping-point inspections in Utah were supervised by A. E. Mercker from August 7 to November 7. During those three months, his records show the following work accomplished:

<u>Cars</u> <u>Shipped.</u>	<u>Product.</u>	<u>Cars</u> <u>Inspected.</u>	<u>Cars</u> <u>Shipped.</u>	<u>Product.</u>	<u>Cars</u> <u>Inspected.</u>
*1,278	Peaches	885	54	Pears	31
580	Apples	212	30	Lettuce	12
857	Potatoes	199	2	Plums	2
120	Onions	113		TOTAL	1,454

\*Washington records show a total of only 1,174 cars of peaches.

3c. SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS IN WASHINGTON.

W. L. Close, Supervising Inspector in the Yakima district of Washington, advises that, during the month of October, joint-certificates were issued on the following shipments: Apples 345 cars; Potatoes 231; Pears 46; Onions 31, and Mixed shipments 1, making a total of 704. Mr. Close reports that demand for inspections is steady, and November probably will show as big a total as was that for October.

F. S. Kinsey, Supervising Inspector in the Wenatchee territory, sent the following report under date of November 23:

Total cars of apples shipped to date.....	11,975
Cars of apples certified.....	4,162
Estimated total still to be shipped.....	6,000
Estimated total still to be certified.....	3,300
Soft fruits certified.....	272
Potatoes certified.....	5
Total certificates on three products	
to date of report.....	4,439.

On a recent trip, F. E. Bailey, Supervising Inspector at Spokane, was approached by the Washington Prune Growers' Association (Vancouver), to ascertain whether Federal inspection can be secured to pass on the quality of fresh prunes delivered for drying. This Association is affiliated with the Oregon prune organization. If arrangements can be made to undertake this work in the future, it will constitute a new field of shipping-point inspection service.

4c. NEWS FROM PORTLAND OFFICE.

To November 17, R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, had made 29 inspections himself during the month, and had prepared 92 cooperative certificates of shipping-point inspections in Oregon. Much educational work is being accomplished. On the 13th, Mr. Ringer visited a potato show at Junction City, which was attended by 75 growers. A similar meeting was held at Gresham a week later, at which he demonstrated the proper method of grading. Mr. Ringer not only explains the potato grades but insists on a strict enforcement of the State law, requiring all outbound shipments to be graded as well as all cars received in Oregon from other sections.

5c. CONFERENCE RELATING TO PEANUTS.

On Saturday of this week, a conference will be held in Washington to determine the proper classification of peanuts having discolored skins but which are otherwise sound. Previous information on this subject was published in Par. 3c of the last Division Letter. The conference will be attended by large users of shelled white Spanish peanuts in the markets; by representatives of the Southeastern Peanut Association, and by specialists in the F. & V. Division.

H. W. SAMSON,  
Specialist in Standardization.



OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Robb was in Chicago the early part of this week, attending the annual convention of the National Association of State Marketing Officials and conferring with Inspectors. Today, he is visiting the Detroit office of the Inspection Service, and on Friday Mr. Robb will visit the Pittsburgh office. He is due in Washington by Saturday, to attend the peanut conference.

R. C. Butner, Regional Supervisor from Chicago, and W. C. Hackleman, Supervising Inspector from New York City, were in Washington on November 26 and 27, to confer with Mr. Robb and others on matters relating to the inspection work. One of the subjects under discussion was the problem of classifying shelled Spanish peanuts having discolored skins.

In order that he may resume investigations in standardization, E. E. Conklin, Jr., will be relieved from the supervision of shipping-point inspection work in New York State; he will be succeeded by J. A. Marks, formerly of the Pittsburgh staff and who has recently been assisting in New York City. It is planned to send Mr. Conklin to Florida to make further investigations regarding the interpretation of tentative grades for citrus fruits and to prepare grades for truck crops. He probably will stop at Washington for a day or two on his way south. Mr. Marks' new address will be the same as Mr. Conklin's has been: 505 Duffy-Powers Bldg., Rochester, N. Y.

C. H. Behnke, who has completed the onion inspections in Indiana, will proceed from Chicago to New York to take Mr. Marks' place.

G. R. Warren, of Philadelphia, recently helped with inspection work in New York for a few days.

The address of J. Harold Hoover is c/o Central Hotel, San Benito, Texas. Mr. Hoover reached San Benito on November 29, after having stopped at Austin to confer with State officials and at San Antonio to meet Inspector Shirley. There has been a great deal of rain in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, according to a letter from Mr. Hoover, and a number of crops have been delayed. This is especially true of cabbage. It is expected that a total of 5,000 carloads of vegetables will be shipped from that section this season.

A. E. Mercker visited the Washington office on Monday en route to Florida. On Wednesday, W. V. Stephens, also of the New York staff, stopped off here before proceeding to his new assignment in Florida. Definite locations of these supervisors will be determined by Mr. Bier, but it is likely that Mr. Mercker's work on citrus fruits may center in Polk County, Florida, and that Mr. Stephens may be stationed on the East Coast, to handle both citrus shipments and vegetables.

Other visitors to the Washington office over the Thanksgiving period were Herbert Graff, of New York, and F. M. Lyle, of New Haven.

John LaGrua, whose appointment to the Inspection force was mentioned in the Division Letter for October 25 and who has been in the Chicago training class, tendered his resignation, effective December 3.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

To effect further consolidation of telegraphic reports of shipments, F.M. Patton, of the Washington office, is visiting railroad officials in Chicago this week.

The six Market News men, who were taking the inspection training in Chicago, completed their work this week and all have left that city except W. J. Bertush, whose headquarters are Chicago. J. G. Scott will substitute for Mr. Boyd in the Pittsburgh office, and the other four men will come to Washington for the Market News conference.

George A. DeHaven has gone from Chicago to Atlanta, where he will handle the market reporting work and inspections while Mr. Curry attends the Washington conference. Mr. DeHaven will later go to Florida, to assist with shipping-point inspections.

C. W. Hauck is working at present on a bulletin concerning the preparation of cabbage for market; he likely will also undertake a bulletin on the marketing of lettuce. R. R. Pailthorp was on leave in Pennsylvania, but has now returned to Washington. He and Mr. Hauck will have their desks in Room 506, Bieber Building, this room being devoted entirely to their use.

Contemplated leave of Inspectors, that has come to the attention of the editor, is as follows: R. C. Lindstrom, Pittsburgh, Dec. 10-15. J. J. Gardner, Pittsburgh, Dec. 16-31. M. L. Benn, New York, Dec. 11-19. E. G. Batsford, New York, Dec. 24-29. Edgar Krumm, New York, Dec. 26-31.

Miss Lucy Watt, of the Washington staff, has been absent for some time on account of the critical illness of her sister. H. V. DeMott, of the Domestic Wool Section, is spending his annual leave in the Bermuda Islands and Florida.

Miss Nora K. Callahan, clerk-typist in the Boston office of the Market News Service, has been absent for the past week on account of sickness.

Inspection service on lettuce has been established in the Phoenix section of Arizona. Mr. Cadwallader, of the California State staff, has been released temporarily to supervise this work at Arizona shipping points.

The trip of Messrs. Evans and Bohannon to Philadelphia was postponed until last Tuesday. Demurrers were argued in three excess-wool-profits cases, but the Judge has not yet rendered his decision.

A few weeks ago, Miss Grace V. Eberling, of the Market News office in New York City, was married to Mr. D. N. Kerr.

A change is being made in the clerical force of the Los Angeles office. Miss Lucy Skaats, who has been in the Market News work for more than six years first in Washington, then in Cincinnati and lately in Los Angeles, has resigned from the service, and Elwood Harrison has gone from the Chicago office to take her place.



FRUIT AND VEGETABLE INDEX TO WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR NOVEMBER 24, 1923.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D.C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. . .

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 48

December 13, 1923

(Contents Confidential)

1b. HANDLING MARKET REPORTS ON DECEMBER 24 AND 31.

All offices will be closed on December 25 and January 1. The following instructions cover the handling of work on December 24 and 31:

As trading probably will be limited on Mondays, December 24 and 31, no mimeographed reports need be issued on those days. Reporters will not need to cover the market. All market stations should copy the shipments and shipping-point information, which will be wired on those Monday mornings.

Both market and field stations should insert conspicuously on all reports issued December 22 and 29 (or 21 and 28, as the case may be) a boxed notice, stating that no bulletins will be issued on December 24, 25, 31 and January 1, but that shipment and f.o.b. information for December 24 and 31 can be secured on request.

On December 26 and January 2 include in your reports all arrivals since the preceding Saturday's wire, using code word "CAPUZ." This will be of very great assistance in Washington in handling the rush of work on Wednesday morning.

Market stations handling relay work should send shipments and f.o.b.'s to field stations as usual. Employees may be excused at one o'clock, or after four hours' service, on the 24th. No word has been received as yet concerning the possibility of a half-holiday on December 31. If it becomes necessary to amend the above instructions in any respect, such amendment will be made over the leased wire in due time.

2b. MARKET NEWS CONFERENCE.

All of the men listed on front page of the last Division Letter came to Washington for the Market News Conference. In addition, B. B. Jones, of the Wisconsin staff, and J. Austen Hunter, of the Texas staff, have been in attendance at the meetings. A fairly complete report of the opening session on Monday morning has been published on page 3 of this week's B.A.E. News. Every office should read that page of the News. A detailed report of all the proceedings will be distributed to F. & V. offices at a later date.

The daily sessions and discussions have proved most interesting and helpful. It is regretted that every member of the Market News staff could not be brought to Washington to reap the benefit of this personal touch with all other members of the force. A few of the men were obliged to return to their respective stations on Wednesday night, but most of those attending the Conference remained for the closing sessions on Thursday. By to-night, it is expected that all will have left Washington and will be on duty again in the various offices by Friday or Saturday.

In addition to the daily luncheons, social features included a bowling party on Monday evening and visits by groups of the men to Mr. Sherman's home near Vienna, Va. Most of those attending the Conference witnessed the release of the cotton crop estimate at 2 P.M. Wednesday. A photograph of the Market News men, and the project leaders and others in Washington, was taken on Tuesday noon in front of the Main Building of the Department, as a Conference record.



### 3b. UNLOAD AND SHIPMENT STATISTICS AVAILABLE.

Some of the men at the Market News Conference were not aware of the fact that Washington has mimeographed summaries of the unloads at 13 markets for the past four years, and that copies of these summaries are available on request. There is a separate sheet for each of these cities: Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Kansas City, Minneapolis, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, St. Paul and Washington. At the top of the sheet, the unloads of each of the ten products are shown by States of origin. At the bottom, the total unloads are listed by months and by commodities. Similar data are given on separate sheets for each of the four years, 1919 to 1922, and the reports for 1923 will be issued as early as possible in 1924.

Other mimeographed summaries available in Washington are those covering the carlot shipments of about 30 leading products. These tabulations for some of the staple commodities can be had for the past six or seven years. Shipments are shown by States of origin and by months. There is a separate sheet for each product and for each year.

### 4b. SPECIAL RELEASES IN NEW YORK.

Under date of November 28, the New York office issued an interesting release, entitled "The Big Argument for Standard Containers." It relates to New Jersey products received on the New York and Newark markets. Charts and tabulations cover the 32 different packages in which 55 separate fruits and vegetables have been found. The sheet includes an array of valuable statistics, and is signed by O. D. Miller and S. W. Russell. Accompanying the text and statistical tables is a long mimeographed sheet, showing in picture form the large number of containers and the larger number of fruits and vegetables falling into the different packages. This drawing was prepared by Mr. Russell and Mr. Steinbuer, who was formerly located in New York. If you do not have a copy of this special release, send for a copy to the New York office.

On December 4, O. D. Miller also issued a special Review of the 1923 Peach Season on New York Market. This, too, is well worth having.

### 5b. MEXICAN LIMES IN SAN FRANCISCO.

C. J. Hansen, market reporter in San Francisco, sent the following information in a letter of December 4:

"For the first time in six years a shipment of Mexican limes was received on the San Francisco market, comprising 300 boxes of wrapped fruit. The fancy label gave one the impression that the packages might contain olive oil.

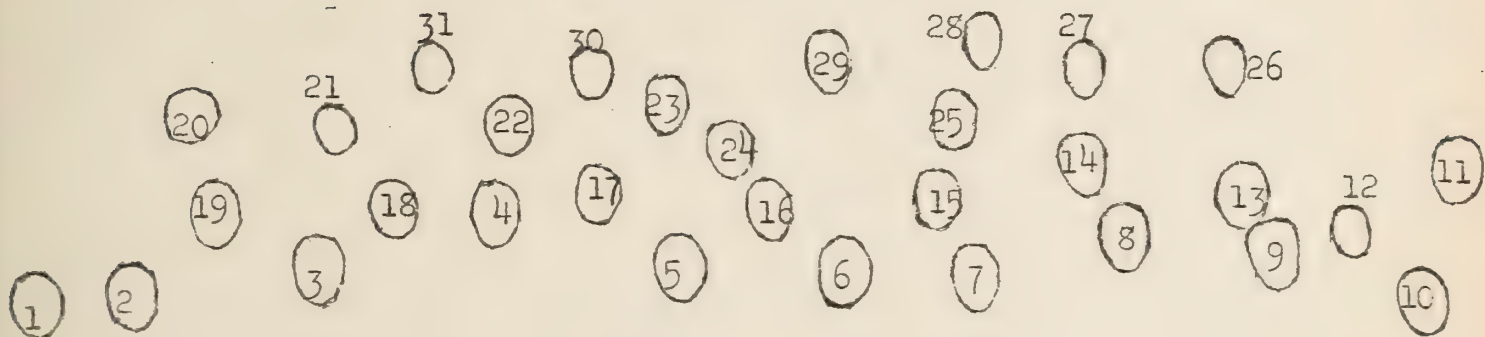
"The containers would compare in size to the honey shippers' or oil companies' cases, in which their five-gallon cans are packed. The fruit was of good clean quality, and entirely free from the scale which is usually found in all Mexican citrus fruits. The size was equal to a 360 lemon. The cases would probably hold between 500 and 600 limes.

"In former years, Mexican limes were very popular and were used quite extensively by confectionery firms instead of lemons, but due to the lower cost of the 'lemonettes' (very small lemons) the demand slackened to nothing. Dealers are endeavoring to realize \$3 per box on the limes, while 'lemonettes' can be purchased for \$1.50 per standard lemon box."

E. W. STILLWELL,  
Specialist in Market News.



DIAGRAM OF PHOTOGRAPH  
of  
MARKET NEWS CONFERENCE GROUP  
Washington, D. C., December 10-13, 1923



- |                   |                   |                    |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. V.G.Gibson*    | 11. B.C.Boree     | 22. (a stranger)   |
| 2. R.H.Shoemaker* | 12. B.B.Jones*    | 23. R.C.Bish*      |
| 3. W.H.Hall*      | 13. C.L.Brown*    | 24. Paul Froehlich |
| 4. H.W.Samson     | 14. W.H.Stanton   | 25. J.A.Hunter*    |
| 5. W.A.Sherman    | 15. L.H.Martin    | 26. J.K.Boyd*      |
| 6. F.G.Robb       | 16. H.J.Clay      | 27. W.L.Evans      |
| 7. E.W.Stillwell  | 17. J.D.Evers*    | 28. R.H.Lamb*      |
| 8. T.C.Curry*     | 18. V.D.Callanan* | 29. C.E.Schultz*   |
| 9. W.H.Mosier*    | 19. O.D.Miller*   | 30. R.M.Peterson*  |
| 10. C.W.Kitchen   | 20. E.R.Biddle*   | 31. W.E.Harrison*  |
|                   | 21. F.M.Patton    |                    |

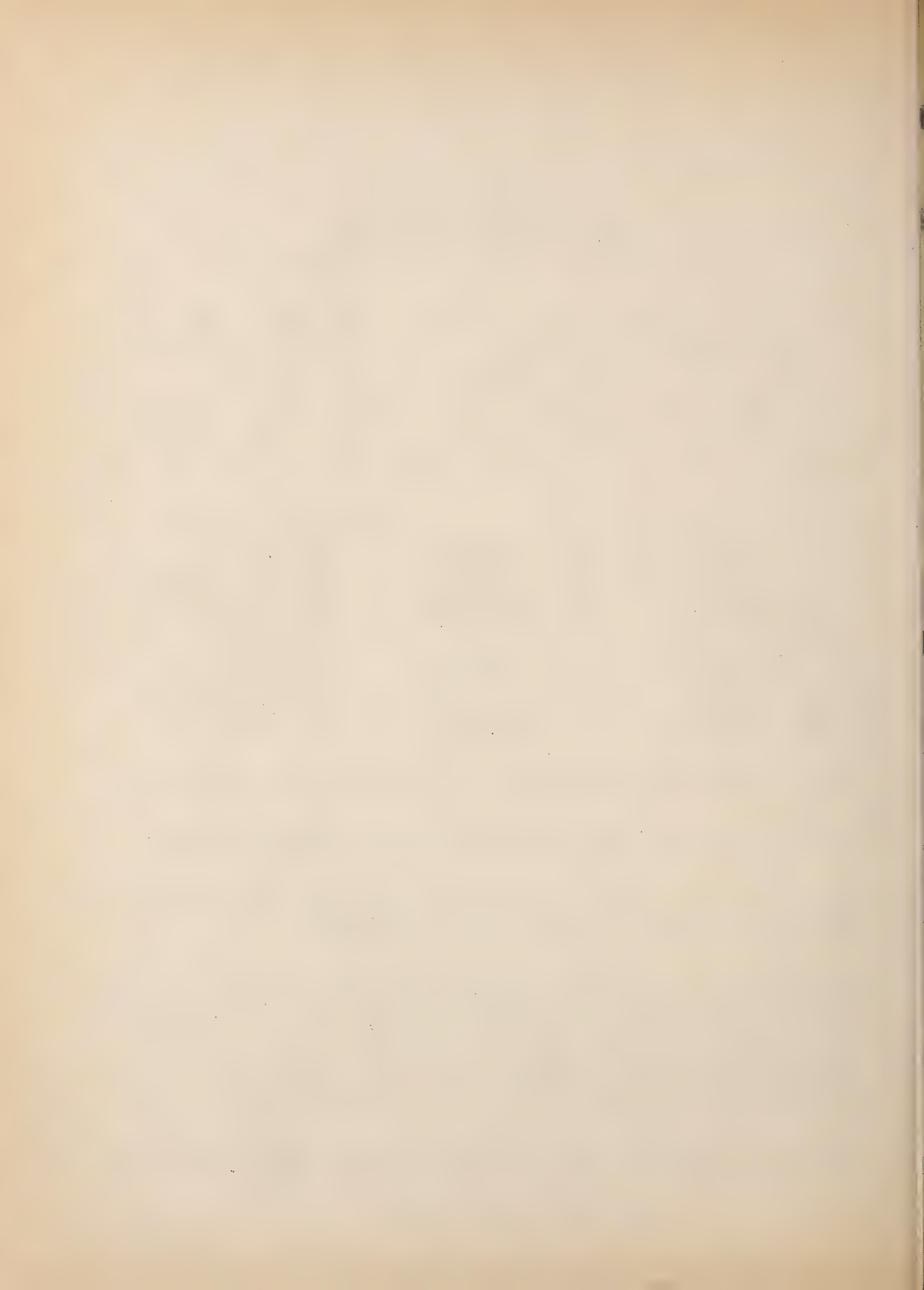
Star (\*) indicates an out-of-town representative to the Conference.

Photograph was taken on steps in front of Main Building, in which the Secretary has his office, at noon on Tuesday, December 11, 1923.

This diagram shows the exact location of each face in the picture, and will enable any one to identify the persons in the photograph, even though he may not know them personally or individually.

Employees outside of Washington who desire to secure copies of this picture can send their orders to Mr. Evans (No. 27), Washington office of Fruit and Vegetable Division. Unmounted copies of this 6" x 8" photograph cost 25¢ each, and mounted copies 40¢. The group posed twice, once with hats on and the second time with hats off. In sending orders, be sure to specify whether you desire mounted or unmounted copies, and whether you prefer hats on or off. Be careful to furnish exact cost in cash or money order; please do not send stamps.

Keep this page for reference, in order to identify the individuals in the group after you receive your copy of the photograph.





## TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
ROCHESTER, N.Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears* Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions Celery	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 28 Sept. 28 Oct. 15	Nov. 3* Oct. 13* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 15 Jan. 15 Dec. 29
PRESQUE ISLE, ME., Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH., 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 17	Mar. 1
WAUPACA, WIS. ** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
GRAND FORKS, N. DAK. 206 Federal Bldg.	843	J. W. Park	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Mar. 1
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. ** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples * Onions #	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	Apr. 30 Nov. 15* Jan. 31
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30

\* Reports discontinued.

\*\* State Dept. cooperating.

# Tri-weekly.

J. D. Evers )  
V. D. Callanan ) on  
J. K. Boyd ) leave  
H. A. Harris )

Temporary Assignments:

F. H. Scruggs in Boston.  
S. D. Main in New York  
S. W. Russell in Pittsburgh.  
C. E. Schultz in Los Angeles.  
G. A. DeHaven to Florida  
for inspection work.

INSPECTION SERVICE
--------------------

1c. REINSPECTION STATEMENT ON CAR FOUND ONLY PARTLY BELOW GRADE.

When a reinspection of a car which was certified up to grade at shipping point shows one grade, brand or grower's lot to be below the grade certified, grade statement covering the car should not be to the effect that the car as a whole does not meet the grade specified. The portion up to grade specifications should be so certified, and that part falling below should be declared out of grade in a separate statement.

Under REMARKS the statement should read somewhat as follows: "This certificate covers reinspection of the above numbered car, original inspection having been made at shipping point and reported on Federal-State certificate No. -----, which is sustained as to Jones, Smith and Henderson lots but reversed as to Johnson lot." This will give shipper and receiver a better opportunity to settle on the basis of the specific portion of the load which was found to be below grade.

2c. DELIVERING SHIPPER'S COPIES TO BROKERS.

A broker frequently asks that the shipper's copy of a certificate issued on request of the receiver or the railroad should be delivered to him to send to the shipper. Past experience has revealed that copies so delivered sometimes do not reach the shipper. A broker frequently has made an adverse report on a car before inspection was called for and is therefore unwilling to have the shipper receive the copy of the certificate which shows the load to be better than he reported. The same applies to representatives of shippers in receiving markets.

It is suggested that the best way to handle requests of this kind/ the shipper's representative or broker is to advise that shipper's copies will be delivered through him only upon receipt of a written request from the shipper. The request so received will relieve us of responsibility in case the shipper fails to receive the copies intended for him.

3c. CERTIFICATION OF LOTS WHICH SHOW A FEW PACKAGES BADLY OFF GRADE.

For some time it has been a general policy at shipping point to average defects found in packages which show in excess of the tolerance but not to exceed double the tolerance with those which show practically no defects or defects within the tolerance, and if the average for the lot as a whole is less than the tolerance it is certified as up to grade. If, however, some packages show more than double the tolerance, while others show practically none, an average is not struck nor would the lot be reported up to grade, even though the final average should show defects to be just within the tolerance. Separate statements are made somewhat to the following effect: "Most packages meet grade requirements, but some do not meet grade requirements on account of defects as shown above."

The policy followed at shipping point in inspecting apples is slightly at variance with this general policy, and is shown by the following sentence quoted from shipping-point inspection circular on Western Apples: "A lot of apples may be deemed to be wholly up to grade, if the average of defects is within the tolerance and no one sample contains more than 20% of apples falling below the requirements of the grade, and provided that not more than one-fourth of the samples show a percentage of undergrade fruit in excess of the tolerance of 10%."

Similar policy should be followed in certifying to grade in receiving markets.



## INSPECTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1923.

MARKETS	Total Fruits C.L. & L.C.L.	Total Vege- tables C.L. & L.C.L.	Grand Total	Total same month 1922	Inspec- tions for Car- riers	Declined for lack of time	FEES ASSESSED		
							C/L Fees	L.C.L. Fees	Certifi- cate Copy Fees
Atlanta	27	47	74	57	4	1	\$288	\$10.00	\$ 3
Baltimore	19	30	49	48	0	0	200	-	2
Boston	44	36	80	86	9	9	320	2.50	14
Buffalo	19	16	35	55	4	0	132	5.00	1
Chicago	166	152	318	360	12	7	1232	-	27
Cincinnati	21	31	52	83	0	0	216	2.50	1
Cleveland	22	22	44	68	5	0	168	2.50	5
Columbus	20	12	32	26	9	1	128	2.50	-
Denver	8	1	9	3	0	0	36	-	-
Detroit	20	19	39	49	1	0	144	-	1
Fort Worth	26	0	26	31	0	0	112	-	-
Harrisburg	0	2	2	4	0	0	8	-	-
Houston	24	11	35	29	0	0	116	15.00	5
Indianapolis	20	13	33	50	0	0	128	2.50	-
Kansas City	54	38	92	68	1	0	344	5.00	4
Memphis	14	16	30	56	10	0	120	-	10
Milwaukee	28	3	31	117	0	0	112	7.50	-
Minneapolis	17	36	53	70	0	0	212	-	1
New Haven	23	21	44	0	-	1	160	10.00	2
New Orleans	72	88	160	92	74	7	452	117.50	26
New York	613	162	775	479	25	133	2664	280.00	19
Norfolk	15	16	31	26	3	1	132	-	2
Omaha	16	7	23	31	1	0	88	2.50	1
Philadelphia	17	45	62	679	0	1	232	10.00	6
Pittsburgh	92	77	169	249	51	6	668	5.00	31
Portland	9	23	32	-	1	0	128	-	-
Salt Lake City	0	2	2	-	0	0	8	-	-
San Antonio	8	13	21	-	1	2	56	17.50	1
San Francisco	1	3	4	0	-	0	20	-	-
St. Louis	49	97	146	195	46	0	556	17.50	12
Washington	13	43	56	58	9	0	216	5.00	9
Wilkes-Barre	5	5	10	13	0	0	40	-	6
TOTAL	1482	1087	2569	3082	266	169	\$9436	\$520.00	\$139

## RECAPITULATION

TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Fruit Inspections .... 1482 Inspections for Carriers.. 266  
TOTAL C/L and L.C.L. Vegetable Inspections.. 1087 Declined for lack of time. 169  
Grand Total C/L and L.C.L. Inspections. 2569 Total Fees Assessed. \$10,152.50\*

\* Total fees assessed includes fee of \$7.50 for mixed car inspected in Kansas City.

## INSPECTIONS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING NOVEMBER, 1923.

Symbols: N-Navy M-Marine Corps	Total Number of Inspec- tions		ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS									
			Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED		"Cuts" made to comply with spec- ifications		Items billed short- weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	180		66671		24		66695		18		0	
		13		6723		0		6723		0		0
NEW YORK	564		273698		17459		291157		1036		0	
		57		202785		21013		223798		13		0
NORFOLK	2		12750		0		12750		0		0	
		0		0		0		0		0		0
PHILADELPHIA	355		281462		15870		297332		816		0	
		26		16051		300		16351		65		0
SAN DIEGO	*		611636		4258		615894		144		0	
		91		81195		0		81195		0		0
SAN FRANCISCO	*		243670		12240		255910		0		0	
		0		0		0		0		0		0
SAN PEDRO	*		1051456		89470		1140926		0		0	
		0		0		0		0		0		0
TOTALS	1101		2541343		139321		2680664		2014		0	
		187		306754		21313		328067		78		0

\* No record of number of inspections.

The following items were also inspected at San Pedro:

	Accepted	Rejected
Bread .....	32,275 lbs.	0
Butter .....	22,639 "	1,965 lbs.
Cheese .....	4,714 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	0

In addition to the above, the New York office made 32 inspections for the U.S. Shipping Board, amounting to 68,858 lbs. of fruits and vegetables passed, 5,160 lbs. rejected, 74,018 lbs. total quantity inspected.

Sixteen inspections were made for the Shipping Board by the Norfolk office during the past month, amounting to 52,100 lbs. of fruits and vegetables passed, no rejections, 52,340 lbs. total quantity inspected. Cuts made to meet specifications amounted to 240 lbs. The estimated saving account the "cut" noted above was \$12.



#### 4c. STORM DAMAGE IN CALIFORNIA.

Yesterday, the following telegram was sent to all offices on the leased wire circuits:

Early reports from reliable sources indicate temperatures as low as 21° at Lindsay, Tulare County, California; not so cold in other parts of county, Sunday and Monday nights, which caused considerable damage to oranges. Sixty per cent Navel crop Tulare County already picked. Heavy northerly winds over Pacific Southwest Saturday, Sunday and Monday caused severe damage to orange crop in southern California, due to dropping and scarring of fruit. Impossible to estimate exact damage for some time. Lettuce, bunched vegetables, cauliflower also damaged by wind and dust.

#### 5c. A WEEK IN WESTERN NEW YORK.

Information from J. W. Raplee, of the Buffalo office, indicates that he is obliged to do quite a lot of traveling to handle inspections in that territory. A condensed "diary" of one of his recent weeks follows:

Left Buffalo 7:20 A. M. Monday for Erie, Pa., to inspect car of western boxed apples at request of Northwestern Fruit Exchange, Wenatchee, Wash. This trip developed the fact that dealers in Erie were under the impression that Government inspection was no longer available in that city. While there, Mr. Raplee explained the service to a number of wholesale houses, and got an order to inspect a car of oranges in addition to the apples.

Tuesday there were two inspections in Buffalo, one of them being a car of Christmas trees from the St. Gabriels section of Quebec. Due to the quarantine on trees from New England, this dealer was able to dispose of the carload of Canadian trees to good advantage. He has men in Canada cutting and loading these trees, and is planning to sell them through the auction.

Wednesday, Mr. Raplee inspected four cars of Fancy Newtown apples at the LeRoy cold storage plant. While at LeRoy, he received a telephone message to inspect a car of onions at Verona, N. Y., the next day. Two requests for inspections in Buffalo on Wednesday had to be held up because of Mr. Raplee's absence at LeRoy.

Thursday, he started to work at 6:30 A. M. on the two cars awaiting from the previous day; one was a car of Texas tomatoes. Leaving Buffalo on the 9:15 train, telegraphic reports on the tomato inspection were dispatched to the interested parties as the train stopped at Rochester. En route from Rochester to Syracuse, Mr. Raplee had opportunity to talk with the Supervising Claim Agent of the American Railway Express Co., showing him the advantages of Federal inspection. On arrival at Canastota, Mr. Raplee was met by the buyer who had made a contract with growers to handle their cars of onions. He drove the Inspector to Verona, a distance of 20 miles, and had a carload of onions examined to determine whether or not the growers were properly curing the onions and living up to the contract.

Friday, a car of grapes was inspected at Buffalo in behalf of the National F.O.B. Auction Co., of Pittsburgh. This substantiated the shipping-point inspection which had been made in California. This job required considerable time, as the applicant desired that weights be ascertained on a large number of lugs.

Saturday morning, an inspection was made of a car of Satsuma oranges, which were packed in bushel and half-bushel baskets. Saturday afternoon, Mr. Raplee went to Rochester to make an inspection in that city.

F. G. ROBB,

Specialist in Inspection.



OFFICE NOTES:

The men who came to Washington for the Market News Conference have now departed to the points indicated below: Mr. Biddle returned to Philadelphia. Mr. Bish to Cleveland. Mr. Boyd to Pittsburgh and then on leave the rest of the year. Mr. Brown to Rochester, stopping off a day in New York. Messrs. Callanan and Evers to New York for one day; then to Boston and on leave at Malden, Mass. Mr. Curry returned to Atlanta; Mr. Gibson to St. Louis; Mr. Hall to Chicago, and Mr. Harrison to Baltimore. After having been absent from Cincinnati for several months on field duty, Mr. Lamb has returned to his headquarters in that city, where he will handle the work while Mr. Wulfekuhl takes his vacation. Mr. Miller has gone back to New York; Mr. Mosier to Waupaca; Mr. Shoemaker to Grand Rapids, and Mr. Peterson will soon return to Minneapolis.

C. E. Schultz proceeded to Los Angeles, to substitute for H. A. Harris, while the latter takes annual leave. Mr. Schultz will open the field station on lettuce at El Centro, Calif., in January.

S. W. Russell has gone from New York to Pittsburgh to report the market in that city, during Mr. Boyd's absence on leave. J. G. Scott, who handled the work in Pittsburgh about a week, has now returned to his headquarters in Philadelphia, and S. D. Main has gone from Philadelphia to assist in New York City during Mr. Russell's absence.

On the return of T. C. Curry to Atlanta, George A. DeHaven will proceed to Florida to help with shipping-point inspection work. He probably will be stationed there for some time.

F. H. Scruggs will continue to report the Boston market until after Christmas, when V. D. Callanan will be in charge at Boston.

E. R. Biddle and J. G. Scott, both of the Philadelphia office, will arrange their annual leave between themselves as opportunity offers, from now until the end of December.

Robert Bier writes from Orlando, Fla., to the effect that inspections will be started at Wauchula or Arcadia this week, and that F. E. Hooper will be located in that territory as supervising inspector. A. E. Mercker has been stationed at Palmetto, Fla., and W. V. Stephens will be sent to Miami or Homestead on the East Coast. The address of O. G. Strauss is Lakeland, Fla. (Box 1101). R. D. Rupert has his office in the Court House at Sanford, and B. E. Shaffer is located at Clearwater. Work was started at Bartow on December 5. Up to December 8, nearly 600 inspections had been made in the State.

Having started J. A. Marks on the shipping-point work in New York State, E. E. Conklin, Jr., will drive to Florida in his automobile, to begin investigations relating to grades and standards.



OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

At Chambersburg, Pa., today, C. W. Hauck is addressing a gathering of growers, who are interested in the service rendered by the F. & V. Division.

S.F. Shreve will be on leave next week. W.H. Steinbauer, of the Washington office, will spend part of his time in Baltimore to handle whatever inspection work may be necessary, and Mr. Shreve will be in Washington, where he can be called on in case of emergency.

W.E. Lewis has returned to duty after two weeks' leave in Washington. He is now making tests in grading onions according to size, with a view to revising, if necessary, the present grades for northern-grown onions.

In order to perfect arrangements for shipment reports of Florida and other southern products during the heavy shipping season, F.M. Patton has gone on a short trip to the South, principally Florida. He expects to return by December 20.

C.R. Newton was on leave in New Orleans part of this week, Nathaniel Farnworth handling the inspections during his absence. Mr. Dish, of the Cleveland office, will be on leave a portion of the time between now and New Year's Day. F.E. Bailey, of Spokane, will enjoy a brief vacation after Christmas, as will Mr. Steinbauer, Inspector in the Washington office. A.H. Polster, of the New York staff, leaves today for Warrenton, Mo., where he will be on vacation the remainder of the year.

After four years' service as messenger in the Buffalo office and two years as a clerk in Buffalo and more recently in Cincinnati, Paul Yax resigned, effective December 12.

A clever description of experiences as a market reporter in a large city has been written by S.D. Main, who assisted recently in Philadelphia. Copies probably can be secured from Mr. Main, who is now in the New York office.

Miss Tillie Babillis, of the clerical pool, is assisting for the present with the filing of inspection certificates in Mr. Robb's offices. Shipping-point inspections have so greatly increased the number of certificates that the tabulation and filing of these reports has become a gigantic task.

W.B. Hawkins, who has been serving as supervising inspector at Monte Vista, Colorado, resigned on December 1. Neal D. Sanborn, of the Denver office, has succeeded to the position at Monte Vista, and Paul A. Cauble divides his time between Greeley and Denver. He goes to Denver to assist with the work whenever necessary.

In correction of an item in last week's D.L., the Bahama Islands instead of the Bermuda Islands are the scene of H.V. DeMott's vacation.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Demurrers filed by the three wool dealers in Philadelphia, against whom the Department has instituted suits for the collection of excess wool profits, have been decided by the Judge in favor of the Government. Actual trial of these cases will be started in the near future.

It was decided at the Conference that the tables published in the D.L., showing the record of work in market and field stations, were of little value. They accordingly will be discontinued.

On the lists of Inspection offices and Market Stations, the telephone number of Atlanta office should be changed from Walnut 4176 to Walnut 2750.

A recent issue of "Better Fruit," the magazine published at Portland, Oregon, devoted three pages to a review of V. D. Callanan's summary of the Northwestern Boxed Apple Deal, commending the summary very highly.

C. H. Behnke has arrived in New York City, and will assist with inspections there the remainder of the year. After January 1, it is expected that Mr. Behnke will be sent to Florida to join the corps of supervisors handling shipping-point work.

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Attention of Market Reporters:

6b. REPORTS ON FLORIDA STOCK MUST BE REGULAR.

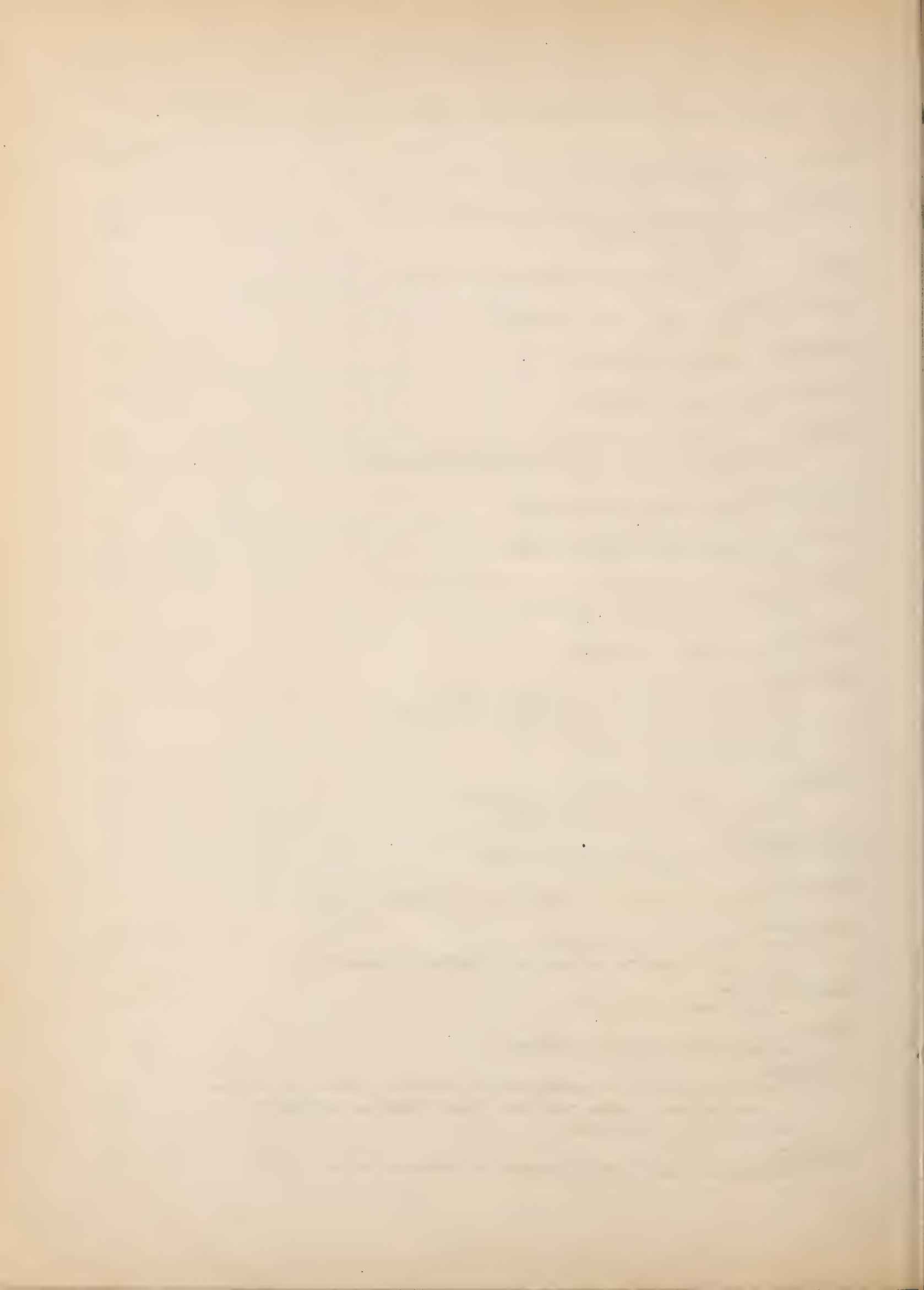
A number of wires have been sent to market stations, asking for continuous reports on Florida crops. If no supplies are available, please say so. Otherwise, quote daily on all crops previously named.

E.W.S.



FRUIT AND VEGETABLE INDEX TO WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR DECEMBER 8, 1923:

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D.C.

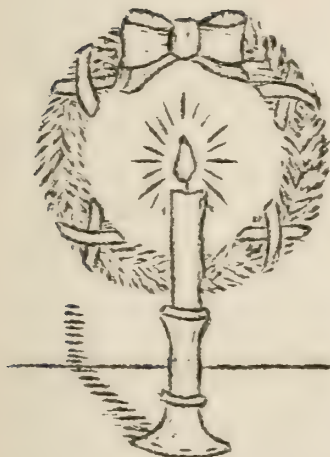
Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

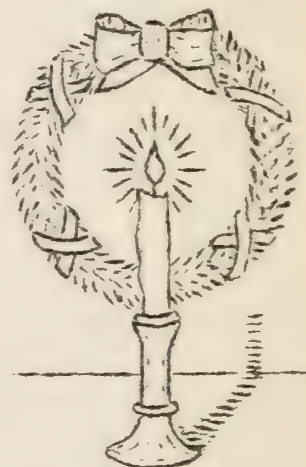
DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 49

December 20, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)



CHRISTMAS, 1923. What was the greatest service ever rendered mankind? Was it not a Demonstration? Did it not prove that we find our own highest and worthiest attainments as we give ourselves unreservedly to the service of our fellows? The Christmas season celebrates the beginning of that Demonstration. To every member of our force it comes with an especial appeal. We have offered ourselves to our countrymen for service and have been accepted. They pay us more than the average income which



they themselves receive. The situation challenges the best that is in us. We have shown our ability to respond to the challenge. With modest satisfaction and with no vain regrets we may bid the old year farewell. The New Year brings its own opportunities for individual growth and for enlarged usefulness. By what standard shall we measure our effort and progress during 1924? With all confidence let us say: By none other than that which was set by the Great Demonstrator.

Sincerely yours,

*Wells A. Sherman*

Specialist in Charge,  
Fruit and Vegetable Division.

1a. TEXAS CITRUS GROWERS START SELLING AGENCY.

Reports from the Texas Citrus Fruit Growers' Exchange, at Mission, Texas, indicate that 100 growers have signed the five-year marketing contract and that plans have been matured for handling the 1923-24 crop. The Exchange will provide and operate the two district packing plants and, in capacity of an agent, sell the fruit. Packing charges announced for this season are: Grapefruit, \$1 a box; oranges, \$1.10 a box; lemons, \$1.25 a box. It is proposed to keep accurate accounts of the cost of operating the packing plants and to refund to growers any surplus resulting from the above charges, on the basis of quantity of fruit delivered.

Sales are to be made on a charge of 25¢ a box. Any surplus accumulating in connection with the selling will be used for the benefit of the stockholders. The 1923-24 output is estimated at 200 carloads. The fruit will be graded and sold under four brands. Plans are being made for the purchase by the Exchange of orchard and packing-house supplies on a carlot basis.

(from "Agricultural Cooperation")



MARKET NEWS SERVICE.1b. CODE WORD PROVIDED FOR "DUSTY RURALS." (Effective Dec. 27)

On the "PA-PE" (Potatoes) page of the code, change

AG Chenango to read

AG Dusty Rurals

This term is added to take care of the round white potatoes coming from the Green Bay Section of Wisconsin. These are not a distinct variety but are very white, medium-sized Rurals, which, because of the light nature of the soil in which they are grown, have a very light dust upon them when shipped, and are accordingly called "Dusty Rurals" by the trade. The covering of dust is exceedingly light and does not prevent the potatoes from appearing clean and bright. Quotations received during the season from several market stations show that Dusty Rurals almost always command a premium over other round whites from Wisconsin.

2b. ADDITIONAL FIELD STATION SUMMARY.

This week, there has been released the Summary of the Idaho Potato Deal, Season of 1922-23, written by C. E. Schultz.

3b. CALIFORNIA ARTICHOKE.

The following article has just been received from C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office. It is most interesting:

Up to December 8, the movement of artichokes from the Half Moon Bay district in California was heavier than for any previous year; a total of 146 straight carloads had been shipped, with an additional 10 carloads in mixed lots with other commodities. This large output can be accounted for by the increased acreage and the extremely mild weather and lack of moisture.

The artichoke requires a cool, moist climate for proper maturity and to secure superior edible qualities. It is for this reason that the Half Moon Bay district exceeds that of any other in the State of California. A mild, warm, dry climate hastens the maturity of the flower- which is the edible portion- and causes the petals to spread, with a tendency toward blooming. With cool, foggy weather the flower becomes compact and the petals hug the heart of the flower tightly. It is at this stage that the artichoke is at its best as a table delicacy.

On the night of December 8, a cold westerly wind passed over this section of the State and the production of artichokes fell off fifty percent. Consequently, from Saturday to Monday the price of artichokes on the San Francisco market advanced from \$8 to \$20 per crate (a package which is not seen in the East), holding from 14 to 25 dozens, depending on the size of the product.

the fact

The artichoke industry is comparatively new, but/ that the acreage today is three times that of 1918 shows how it has gained in popularity. Total production this year probably will be close to 300 cars, of which 600 will be shipped East. Several years ago, quite extensive experiments were made to determine the advisability of canning the stock. This proved to be a failure, as the demand would not warrant it and the venture was dropped.

The peak of the artichoke movement comes during March and lasts until May, when the heart begins to bloom. The flower itself is very beautiful, the center opening up and exposing deep purple pistils, which give the appearance of a giant thistle.



4b. POTATO SITUATION IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA.

On December 12, a letter was written by Mr. Hansen, of the San Francisco office, to Mr. Prugh, in charge of the field station at Idaho Falls. Incidentally, he remarks that Idaho is shipping quite a few cars of turkeys to San Francisco. The letter relates almost entirely to potatoes:

"Early in the season, California speculators bought spuds in Idaho at \$1.00 and \$1.05; their holdings were pretty heavy and money was scarce. Some of them had to liquidate and were willing to take a nickel profit or break even; in a few cases they lost money, but not many. The freight here is 60¢ per cwt; so, when they sold at \$1.65 they made a nickel or broke even. The small California operator is through and there are no potatoes left in the growers' hands except the large operators, such as Geo. Shima and Zuckerman. The real good quality of California stock is scarce, and those who have good stuff are holding for a price and they get it or won't sell. A fancy California Burbank today is bringing \$2.25; they are trying to get \$2.35, and I believe they will before long. The small operator out of Idaho is through and those who have supplies left or receiving on consignment are holding for higher prices, and the trade is now paying it. Potatoes in Yakima were contracted for early in the season at \$20 to \$22 per ton; it costs 40¢ freight to San Francisco, and there has been more lost than made the past two years.

"It is hard to say just what the potato market will do in the future. Personally I do not think it will weaken any, unless the large operators have more potatoes in the ground at Stockton than they figure on. They never dig their seed stock until after the frosts, and they have had plenty the past week; so the next week or so should be a deciding factor. Summing up the whole situation, it has been purely a cutthroat deal."

5b. SPECIAL SERVICE IN TEXAS.

Tentative arrangements have been made with J. Austen Hunter, of the Texas Radio Market News Service, for handling market reports on cabbage and spinach for the Lower Rio Grande Valley and other sections of Texas.

This Bureau will pay for the services of a radio clerk, who will be stationed at Austin. We also will furnish paper, stencils, and ink for the publication of such reports as may seem advisable. Mr. Hunter is completing arrangements for the reception at Houston and San Benito of material to be broadcast from Austin. Further distribution of the information will be made by press and telephone from these two receiving centers. Arrangements also will be made to secure f.o.b. information on both cabbage and spinach in Texas.

It is believed that this will provide a fairly satisfactory news service for shippers and growers and, at the same time, will save the expense of operating field office in the Lower Valley and of stationing a technical man there. In a large way, the Federal Bureau will provide the information and the Texas people will distribute it.

6b. RE-PRINTING OF CODE BOOK.Reply

It was agreed at the recent Conference that the present code books in most field and market stations need replacing. So many corrections have been made on several pages that it has become difficult to know the correct translation of symbols, thus increasing the chance for errors.

Some time during this winter, it is planned to go over the code book, page by page, and make such changes as seem needed, and then to re-print the entire book, furnishing copies to each field and market station representative.

Before revising the code book, we should have at hand suggestions from everyone who uses the code and who has any ideas for improving it. These should include not only additions to the present symbols, but necessary changes in English terms that may now be inaccurate or misleading. Such changes as seem most pressing will be issued from time to time in the Division Letter and all changes will, of course, be incorporated in the final revision. Letters from men in charge of offices should contain the suggestions of all those handling the code in their offices. Several letters have already been received, suggesting code changes. All should be sent in not later than January 25.

E. W. STILLWELL,

Specialist in Market News.



INSPECTION SERVICE.1c. A WELL-WRITTEN LETTER.

Our Inspectors frequently receive letters of criticism of their work, which show bad spirit on the part of the writer. It is always difficult to respond to such letters with courtesy and yet with the firmness which is necessary to convince the writer that nothing is gained by abuse. The following letter, written by one of our Inspectors, is an excellent example of a proper reply to a disagreeable letter. It should be studied carefully as a courteous yet dignified reply to an unwarranted criticism:

"Gentlemen:-

"Acknowledging your letter of the 6th instand, with reference to inspection certificate issued November 16th on the above numbered car of potatoes, I regret that the quality and condition of the lot was such as to require a somewhat unfavorable report, but it is my duty to report conditions as I find them, not as we would all like to see them.

"For your information, would say that an unusually large number of bags of this shipment was examined for the reason that 240 out of the shipment of 323 sacks showed wet stains, indicating the presence of decay. Entire bags (not small samples) were run over the screen and blemished and decayed stock removed and weighed, and the figures given in the certificate are the result of a careful and conscientious examination made under and in accordance with the rules of this Service governing such inspections.

"In conclusion, would say that I do not regard the innuendo in the last sentence of the first paragraph, or the threat contained in the second paragraph of your letter, as worthy of further comment than to state that I am not in the least disturbed by either, inasmuch as a most careful and thorough inspection was made of the shipment in question and a truthful and conscientious report written thereon.

"Very truly yours, etc."

2c. ALUMINUM SIZING SETS.

Each of our regular receiving-point Inspectors has been furnished with an aluminum sizing set. These have been made in our own shops and are exceptionally nice pieces of work. Mr. Barghausen, who had charge of this work, advises that they are accurate to 2/1000 of an inch.

The cost of material and labor has been sufficient to make these inventorial. Each Inspector, therefore, will be held responsible for the set forwarded to him, the same as for other property. Great care should be used not to leave these sizing sets lying around in a car or warehouse when making an inspection, for they are so desirable that they may disappear if not kept in the pocket or under the eye of the Inspector.

Many inquiries likely will be made as to where these can be obtained. Our shops do not manufacture articles for persons outside the Bureau. It will be impossible, therefore, for anyone to obtain sets of this kind. Any good mechanic, however, should be able to manufacture sets for those who desire them.

F. G. ROBB,

Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Things are rather quiet around the Washington office at present, because of the holiday season and the absence of many people on leave.

Instead of proceeding immediately to Florida for inspection work, George A. DeHaven will remain in Atlanta until the first of the year, helping with work in that office.

Several sacks of onions are being assorted as to size by Wm. E. Lewis, with a view to changing the percentages in the different grades for northern-grown onions. This entire proposition will be referred to the inspection offices and other interested persons for criticisms and suggestions, before actual changes in the grades are made.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., spent the past two days in Washington, and left this morning for Florida, where he will work on grades for citrus fruits and truck crops.

W. J. Bertush, of the Chicago Market News office, and F. H. Scruggs, of Boston, will be on leave the last week of December. V. D. Callanan assumes charge of the market reporting work in Boston after Christmas.

A serious accident befell Frank A. Clark, clerk in the Washington office, last Sunday. Mr. Clark was crossing the street at a busy intersection and was struck by a taxicab, suffering a compound fracture of the leg. He is in a local hospital and his condition is reported critical.

The radio operator who was trying out the receiving set in our Los Angeles office has resigned. A number of changes were made in the wave lengths used in broadcasting the market reports from the Naval station at Mare Island (San Francisco), and the service to Los Angeles was not very satisfactory. No more trials will be made until after January 1, when we hope to have the use of higher-power broadcasting set.

Miss Mary E. Korbly has been transferred from Dr. Stine's section and is assisting with the tabulation and filing of inspection certificates for Mr. Robb.

J. H. Hoover's address in South Texas is now: Mercedes Hotel, Mercedes, Texas. Mr. Hoover formerly was stationed at San Benito, in connection with shipping-point work.

S. H. Fountain has sent in his business address as follows: Navy Provision Inspector, c/o Montizello Steamship Company, Vallejo, Calif. His office telephone is: Vallejo 14.

On December 14, the Buffalo office of the Inspection Service was moved from Room 220 to Room 240, Federal Building. Please note all these changes on your address lists.

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FRUIT AND VEGETABLE INDEX TO WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR DECEMBER 15, 1923.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
Washington, D.C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div.

Issued every Thursday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 4, NO. 50.

December 27, 1923.

(Contents Confidential)

1a. ABUNDANCE OF FRUIT IN LONDON.

In the London "Daily Telegraph" a few weeks ago there was published the following interesting account of a window-display competition among retail dealers. The clipping was received from Edward A. Foley, Agricultural Commissioner, London:

With the idea of appealing to the public, retail traders in fruit and vegetables are making a special effort throughout next week to force attention to the health foods they purvey. A window-dressing competition has been organised, and traders, fresh from the great displays at the Imperial Fruit Show at Manchester, will enter into rivalry to secure the blue riband of the retail trade for the best-dressed window. Some traders will find it difficult to improve upon their regular displays, while others, judging by appearance, will find it a formidable task for lack of experience. Too many shopkeepers figuratively throw their wares at purchasers. They have plenty of material for an attractive show, but seem to lack idea, or inclination, as to how to stage it.

That the competition for the best-dressed window is being well taken up in London is evidenced by the demand at Covent Garden for the finest specimens of fruit and vegetables the market can supply. The material is so plentiful that no retailer, whatever the class he caters for, is experiencing any difficulty, unless it is in the abundance of choice. Apples and pears are favourites, both appealing so generally to the consumer and being capable of forming artistic displays. Of apples there is an abundant supply, of many hues, from the pale green to gold of the Newtown to the burning red cheeks of the Jonathan. The onlooker, while admiring arrays of apples may reflect that supplies are so heavy and prices so unremunerative that the grower is deriving little or no satisfaction.

Fine Pears on Display.

Some of the finest pears on view will be the splendid English Comice, but the majority will be Californian and French. The golden Canary banana will have a prominent place, with the advantage of a new wire contrivance which displays the "hand" to the best advantage with the "fingers" pointing the correct way upward. Of oranges the bulk will be the Spanish, though the season is yet young, while there will be others from South Africa, Jamacia, and Australia, and a few naartjes from South Africa. The rains in Spain have much improved the orange in size, colour, and flavour.

(continued over)



Graves should make a valuable contribution to the all-round effect. There are prime homegrown from Worthing, the Lea Valley, and other areas, and excellent fruit from the Channel Islands, Belgium, and Holland. Pineapples are highly decorative, and are in fine condition from the Azores and South Africa. The attractive cartons of Tunis dates will be used to the greatest advantage. There is a plethora of brands, and supplies are heavy, but the best are not in full swing yet. Some dates have been exposed for sale during the week which had actually fermented. Such dates are not cheap at any price, and will not be found under well-known brands, which are still over-sold before arrival. Pomegranates are now riper and of good colour and size, and anyone who has not tried the juice in a fruit salad should do so. Grape fruit from Cuba, Jamaica, and South Africa; English blackberries, Spanish and Sicilian lemons, Idaho and Bavarian plums, and American cranberries will also be among the attractions. A tablespoonful of cranberries is sufficient to flavour a 2lb. apple tart. Supplies of chestnuts and walnuts are heavy, and prices are low. Cobnuts are fairly expensive.

#### Vegetable Supplies.

Vegetables may be displayed in highly attractive form, and tomatoes will no doubt be largely used in contrast with the delicate green of French lettuce. English tomatoes are regarded by the trade as being wonderful for the period of the year. The bulk of the supplies of tomatoes are from the Canary Islands, large quantities being available. Savoy and other cabbages, cauliflowers, sprouts, and potatoes can be shown very attractively with the aid of "fans" of fine celery, baskets of Madeira or Guernsey beans, Belgian chicory, English, French or Guernsey peas, cucumbers, asparagus, bunches of mint, and a nice basket of mushrooms. Even the onion may be pressed into service, and, although crops have been generally short all round, there are plenty available from Belgium, Holland, Hungary, Spain, and elsewhere. Carrots and turnips, too, will aid the effect on the vegetable side of next week's shows.

#### 2a. GOOD PROGRESS MADE BY DOMESTIC WOOL SECTION.

W. L. Evans, in immediate charge of the Domestic Wool Section, reports that during the year 1923 the sum of \$79,576 was collected from dealers who made excess profits on their 1918 wool. This is \$10,613 more than the amount collected during 1922. There was refunded to wool growers in the past twelve months a total of \$42,327, and additional or revised audits have increased the ascertained excess profits to the extent of \$19,187, making the total excess profits thus far discovered a little less than \$1,490,000. About 930 dealers have remitted to the Government half this grand total, and the other half of the aggregate excess profits remains to be collected from 69 dealers. Some of these cases, involving large amounts of money, will be tried in the Federal courts, as 87% (or \$660,000) of the total yet due is owed by 10 dealers.

(continued on next page)



During 1923, five decisions have been rendered by Federal judges upholding the Government's right to collect these funds and five excess profits cases have been tried on the facts. The Department has been successful in every case thus far reached in the courts. There is no time limit for the collection of this money, and therefore none of the cases can be outlawed by reason of the five years which have elapsed since certain wool dealers made profits in excess of the war-time regulations. It is expected that several additional cases will come to trial early in 1924.

Collections have been sufficient during the past few months to make it necessary to enlarge the clerical force on that part of the work from one a year ago to four at the present time. Funds in hand will provide distribution work for six months, regardless of any collections in the meantime. In addition to Mr. Evans, the personnel of the Domestic Wool Section includes one auditor, H.V. DeMott, and a total of six clerks.

INSPECTION SERVICE.

1c. SHIPPING-POINT WORK IN FLORIDA AND TEXAS.

Robert Bier advises that 500 carloads of vegetables have been signed up on the East Coast of Florida and that 1,000 or 1,500 additional cars may be inspected in that section this season. W.V. Stephens has been stationed at Miami, as supervising inspector. Many of the citrus packing houses are temporarily closed, and O.G. Strauss has been sent from Lakeland to Fort Myers (Lee County) to look after the vegetable inspections in that territory, assisted by F.E. Hooper, who had been at Auburndale. B.E. Shaffer is still at Clearwater; A.E. Mercker at Palmetto, and P.D. Rupert at Sanford.

E.E. Conklin, Jr., has now reached Florida, where he will make further investigations regarding grades for citrus fruits and truck crops. Three additional Federal inspectors are being sent to assist Mr. Bier; they are R.M. Peterson, of Minneapolis; Nathaniel Farnworth, of the New Orleans office, and C.H. Behnke who has been temporarily assisting in New York City. Several of the Market News men also will help with this work a few months.

In Texas, there has been much cool and rainy weather, truck crops are delayed and shipments relatively light, according to recent reports from J. H. Hoover, supervising inspector located at Mercedes. These conditions also will affect the quality of vegetables from the Rio Grande Valley.

F. G. ROBB,  
Specialist in Inspection.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE
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1b. VEGETABLES ON WEST COAST OF MEXICO.

Information from apparently reliable sources indicates that nearly 20,000 acres of vegetables are being grown on the West Coast of Mexico this season, divided approximately as follows:

Product	Acres	Product	Acres
Tomatoes.....	15,845	Mixed Veggies....	385
Peas.....	1,275	Cucumbers.....	225
Melons.....	865	Eggplant.....	75
Peppers.....	650	Total.....	19,320

The Mexico Arizona Trading Co. under date of December 21 advised in part as follows: "The shipping has just started, and will run through until the latter part of May. The crop generally is in good condition, although they have had a great deal of rainy, damp and cloudy weather since October 17, which is very conducive toWailhead and other diseases. This weather still continues, but we are expecting it to finish shortly, when we shall get normal weather. As the bulk of the plantings are made late in the season, we think that these will come on in a satisfactory manner and that the estimates as to output are correct. A total of 2,933 carloads of tomatoes and other vegetables is expected."(Do not publish this.)

2b. CHRISTMAS TREES GLUT MILWAUKEE MARKET.

Supplies of Christmas trees for Milwaukee are usually obtained from the New England States. This year, the local merchants bought conservatively, sufficient only for their immediate needs. Open weather, however, permitted the cutting of trees in the northern parts of Michigan and Wisconsin,- usually by persons not posted on market conditions,- and large supplies coming from these districts by boat, automobile and rail caused a serious glut in the market. Consequently, many of the regular receivers will suffer heavy losses this season. Just before Christmas, it was estimated that at least 25,000 trees in Milwaukee alone would have to be dumped.

From an economic standpoint, as affecting national forestry, railway facilities and general business conditions, H. A. Arenz, of our Milwaukee office, suggest that it might be well to revive the old poem: "Woodman, spare that tree; touch not a single bough!"

E. W. STILLWELL,  
Specialist in Market News.



## TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List No.	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably Will Close
ROCHESTER, N. Y. 39 Federal Bldg.	837	C. L. Brown	Pears* Peaches* Apples Potatoes Cabbage Onions Celery	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 28 Sept. 28 Oct. 15	Nov. 3* Oct. 13* Apr. 1 Apr. 1 Jan. 15 Jan. 15 Dec. 29
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Greenlaw Block	842	H. S. Stiles	Potatoes	Sept. 12	Apr. 1
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	G. E. Prince	Apples	Sept. 17	Mar. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** 116 E. Union St.	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 17	Apr. 30
GRAND FORKS, N. DAK. 206 Federal Bldg.	843	J. W. Park	Potatoes	Sept. 19	Mar. 1
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Potatoes Apples * Onions #	Oct. 19 Oct. 19 Oct. 19	Apr. 30 Nov. 15* Jan. 31
IDAHO FALLS, IDA. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	A. E. Prugh	Potatoes	Sept. 25	Apr. 30

The following stations probably will be opened on date indicated:

SANFORD, FLA.##	910	Unassigned	Celery	Jan. 10	Apr. 1
EL CENTRO, CALIF.	933	C. E. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 10	Apr. 1

\* Reports discontinued.

\*\* State Dept. cooperating.

# Tri-weekly.

## There is a possibility that this station may not be operated.

Temporary Assignments:

S. D. Main in New York.

S. W. Russell in Pittsburgh.

C. E. Schultz in Los Angeles.

G. A. DeHaven)

W. J. Bertush) to Florida for

J. D. Evers ) inspection work.

R. H. Lamb )

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Samson and Mr. Stillwell are planning to attend the annual convention of the American Fruit and Vegetable Shippers' Association, at Hotel Drake, Chicago, January 5, 7 and 8. Mr. Samson will then proceed to Kansas City, to attend the convention of the Western Fruit Jobbers' Association the next three days. The Chicago and Kansas City representatives of the F. & V. Division also will be visited on this trip.

C. E. Schultz left Los Angeles last evening for San Francisco, where he is conferring today with the Manager of the Sun Maid Raisin Growers' Association and other grape interests concerning the possibility of their securing Federal advice next season in the distribution of the large crop of grapes. The service desired is similar to that which has been in effect at the Brawley field station for a number of years. Mr. Schultz will then return to Los Angeles, where he will continue to assist H. A. Harris until about January 5, after which he will proceed to El Centro to operate the field station on Imperial Valley lettuce.

R. M. Peterson will go from Minneapolis within the next few days to Florida, where he will assist Robert Bier with shipping-point inspection work. R. M. Ferguson, of the Minneapolis staff, will report the Twin City markets during Mr. Peterson's absence.

Nathaniel Farnworth and C. H. Behnke also will proceed to Florida to help with inspections in that State. Mr. Farnworth has been located in New Orleans for several weeks and C. H. Behnke has been assisting in New York City.

Unless plans are changed, W. J. Bertush will go from Chicago, R. H. Lamb from Cincinnati, and J. D. Evers from Boston about January 1 to Florida, where they will work under the direction of Mr. Bier for two or three months. G. A. De Haven reached Orlando on the 24th.

Herbert Graff was a visitor to the Washington office. He is on leave this week, on his return trip to New York from Winchester, Va., where he was called to inspect 550 barrels of apples.

Men in branch offices frequently receive commendations of their work. Such a letter was recently sent to C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office, by Robert Romer & Company, carlot shippers, importers and exporters in that city. It reads in part as follows: "We wish to thank you for your kindness in this matter and very much appreciate the wonderful service that we and other shippers are able to get through your Department."

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Clay last Friday, - almost a Christmas gift.

F. H. Scruggs, who has been substituting in the Boston Market News office and who is now on leave, will report for duty in Washington on January 2.



OFFICE NOTES:(CONTINUED):

T. C. J. Baker, of Mr. Samson's office, was struck by an automobile last Friday and suffered a broken bone in one of his feet. Mr. Clark, who was run over 10 days ago, is improving at the Emergency Hospital.

Leaving Washington tomorrow night, Wm. E. Lewis will proceed to Louisiana, for the purpose of studying vegetable grades in that territory. This work will be done in conjunction with the Extension Service of the State Dept. of Agriculture, and Mr. Lewis can be reached in care of our New Orleans office.

R. C. Lindstrom, who has been helping with inspections in Pittsburgh, will leave there on December 29. After spending a few days at his home in Minneapolis, Mr. Lindstrom will return to Chicago, his permanent headquarters.

M. W. Baker, of the Chicago staff, was transferred to the Pittsburgh inspection office on December 22. He will be on leave the last few days of this month.

The Portland office is now issuing market reports on potatoes, apples and onions three times a week.

An important conference will be held in New York City on January 4, to effect further cooperative relations on market news lines between this Bureau and the New York Dept. of Farms and Markets. Those expected to attend include the Commissioner of Farms and Markets, B. A. Pyrke; H. Deane Phillips, Director of New York Bureau of Markets; Dr. H. C. Taylor, Chief of this Bureau; J. C. Marquis, Director of Information; Wells A. Sherman, O. D. Miller and possibly C. L. Brown, of the Fruit and Vegetable Division, and perhaps a representative of the Division of Live Stock and Meats.

W. H. Mosier, of the Waupaca field station, is on leave this week. His work is being handled by M. M. Littleton.

Pages 4 and 5 of "State and Federal Marketing Activities" for December 19 contain a very interesting and detailed description of the cooperative market news service being rendered in the State of Texas.

E. J. Powell, Supervising Inspector who was stationed at Fresno, Calif., during the grape season, is now in the State Department's office at Sacramento.

H. A. Harris reports that southern California shippers are using a new kind of paper for lining crates for lettuce and other vegetables. This is a parchment paper and is supposed to be far superior to the waxed paper formerly used. Experiments thus far show that this new paper is very tough while wet, but that it becomes rather brittle on drying out.

The local address of B. E. Shaffer in Florida is 509 N. Harrison Street, Clearwater, Fla. He is working under direction of Mr. Bier, in the shipping-point inspection service.



OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

On December 10, F. S. Kinsey and other Supervising Inspectors in Washington, attended the meeting of the Washington State Horticultural Association, at Yakima. Various inspectors from all over the State entered a test on the grades for Winesap apples. The Arbitration Committee in this contest consisted of C. L. Robinson, Supervisor of Horticulture; W. L. Close, of the Yakima office; F. E. Bailey, of the Spokane office, and Mr. Kinsey, whose headquarters are at Wenatchee. As an example of the large number of brands of apples in the Pacific Northwest, Mr. Kinsey says that they had on exhibition 521 different labels, which is only a part of the available total number. A movement is now on foot, which may result in the cooperative marketing of the entire northwestern apple crop in future seasons, in which scheme only two or three prominent brands would be used and be widely advertised.

James A. Marks is assisting with inspections in New York City this week, the shipping-point work in western New York having been suspended over the holidays. The week before Christmas, 24 cars of potatoes were inspected at shipping points, and a considerable number the early part of the present week.

Miss Grace L. Robinson spent Christmas in Boston and visited former associates in our Boston office.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

This is the last Division Letter in Volume 4. Your file for the entire year 1923 should be carefully put away for future reference. It is likely that a complete index will be issued at an early date. Volume 5 will begin with the paper for January 3, 1924. A HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all! (Editor)



FRUIT AND VEGETABLE INDEX TO WEATHER, CROPS AND MARKETS FOR DECEMBER 22, 1923.

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